

Ten Lakes

Montana Wilderness Study Act Area

Final Report & Proposal

Appendix D - Record of Public Hearings

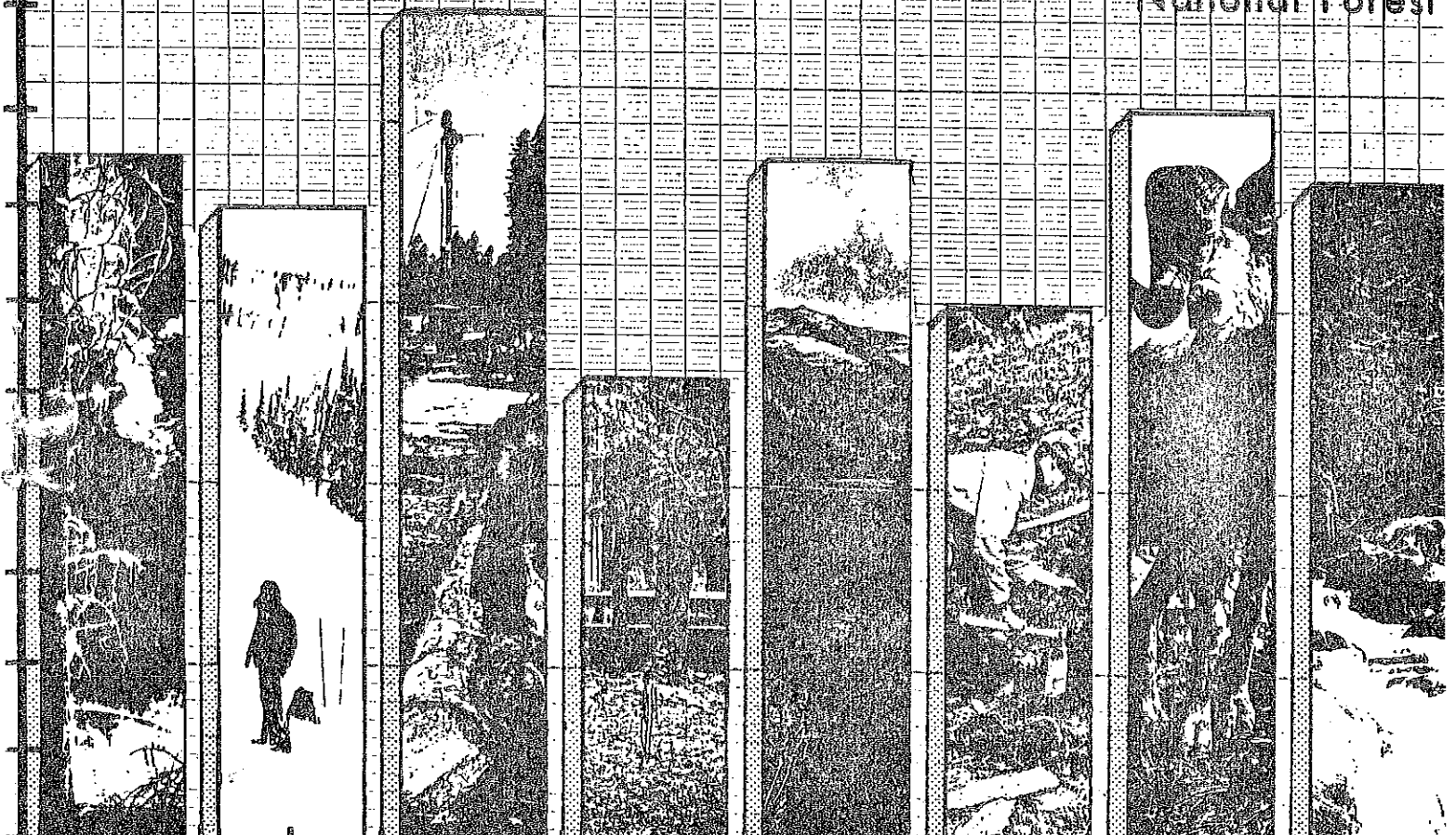
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United States
Department
of Agriculture



Forest Service

Kootenai
National Forest



This appendix contains copies of the public hearings conducted for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act area. The appendix is divided into three parts corresponding with the hearings conducted in three locations:

Eureka, January 17, 1983

Libby, January 18, 1983

Kalispell, January 19, 1983

Each hearing contains a table of contents listing the speakers.

1 UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE
2
3
45 COPY
6
78 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
910 FOR THE KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST PROPOSAL FOR
11 TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA (PL 95-150)
1213 PUBLIC HEARING
1415 Taken at the Eureka Grade School
16 Eureka, Montana
17 Monday, January 17, 1983 - 2:00 p.m.
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19
20
21
22
2324 Reported by Melody Jeffries, Official-Freelance Court
25 Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula,
Montana.

I N D E X

2 HEARINGS OFFICER: LAWRENCE M. JAKUB

3 U.S. FOREST SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES:

4 PAUL LEIMBACH, Forest Supervisor's Office
 5 GARY MORGAN, Forest Supervisor's Office
 6 JOHN PRITCHARD, Murphy Lake District Ranger

6 Introduction and Meeting Objectives. . . Lawrence M. Jakub. . . 4
 7 Forest Service Study Results Gary Morgan. . . . 8

8 SPEAKERS:

9 LLOYD WEST, no address. 11
 10 BILL CUNNINGHAM, Montana Wilderness Association, P.O.
 11 Box 635, Helena 14
 12 JAY VEST, Missoula. 23
 13 TOM SKELLY, Eureka. 28
 14 BILL GOULD, Lincoln County Commissioner, Burma Road,
 Eureka. 30
 15 WINTON WEYDEMEYER, Fortine. 32
 16 ROBERT KEARNEY, no address. 39
 17 STAN HOLDER, Eureka 40
 18 DOUG EVANS, Eureka. 41
 19 CARL PERSHALL, no address 42
 20 GARY HENDERSON, Eureka. 44
 21 MIKE MILLER, Eureka 44
 22 PAT KEARNEY, Eureka 45
 23 ANNE GLOVER, Eureka 46
 24 BRAD OSLER, Eureka 47
 25 BERT MARCHBANKS, Eureka 48

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1 MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 1983

2 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were had and entered
3 of record.)

4 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's two o'clock and I think
5 we'll get started so we'll stay on schedule.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, the hearing will please come to
7 order. This hearing has been called for the purpose of
8 considering results of the Forest Service studies concerning
9 the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. To be sure that
10 the nature and purpose of the hearing are fully understood and
11 that a complete hearing record is established, I will briefly
12 review the background for the hearings and I will probably, at
13 each session of the hearings as we go, I'll probably go through
14 the same statement for the benefit of people who come at later
15 sessions..

16 On November 1st, 1977, Congress passed the Montana
17 Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150. The Act requires the
18 Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations to
19 Congress on the wilderness suitability of nine separate
20 national forest areas in Montana containing nine hundred
21 seventy-three thousand acres.

22 Two of the nine areas, Mount Henry and Ten Lakes, are
23 on the Kootenai National Forest. Mount Henry, twenty-three
24 thousand four hundred acres in size, was addressed in a
25 regional report and proposal along with two other study areas

1 in Montana, the Taylor-Hilgard and the West Pioneer Montana
2 Study Act Area. The Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act
3 Area, an area of thirty-five thousand nine hundred acres, was
4 analyzed as part of the Kootenai National Forest planning
5 process. A map of the Ten Lakes Area and its environs, as well
6 as maps of the alternatives analyzed, are displayed in this
7 room.

8 This hearing session and succeeding sessions at Libby
9 and Kalispell on January 18th and 19th are being held to
10 consider the results of the Forest Service study.

11 Public notice to conduct this hearing was published in
12 the Federal Register on November 12th, 1982, and also in
13 several Montana newspapers. A copy of the notice published in
14 the Federal Register and copies of the newspaper notices will
15 be collectively marked as Exhibit 1 and will be made a part of
16 this hearing record. Several letters and inquiries concerning
17 the study have been received. These have been assembled by the
18 Forest Service and will be marked as Exhibit 2 and will be made
19 a part of the hearing record. In accordance with the public
20 notice this hearing is convened and opened today, January 17th,
21 1983, at two p.m. at the Eureka Grade School, Eureka, Montana.

22 I've been designated as presiding officer for this
23 hearing. My name is Lawrence M. Jakub and I'm the attorney in
24 charge for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of
25 General Counsel located in the Federal Building at Missoula,

1 Montana.

2 Now, a few words about the procedure which will be
3 followed in this hearing. This hearing is not a debate, a
4 trial, or a question and answer assembly, but an advisory
5 hearing wherein all interested persons may present written or
6 oral statements or other information relative to the matters
7 named in the notice for consideration by the Regional Forester.
8 The statement of interested parties will not be taken under
9 oath, but each person desiring to express their views should
10 come to the front of the room and state their name, and address,
11 and whom they represent, if anyone, and the nature of their
12 interest in the matter. And you will be speaking in the
13 microphone, to my right, at the podium on the same table that
14 I'm sitting.

15 When giving your statement, you should speak slowly
16 and distinctly so that the reporter can record the complete
17 statement. I'm not going to set a time limitation for each
18 individual speaker, however, I think that statements not
19 exceeding five to ten minutes should be appropriate.

20 In lieu of making an oral statement, interested
21 persons may file written statements discussing the results of
22 the study. Written statements or exhibits submitted during the
23 hearing will become a part of the hearing record and will be
24 available for public inspection while this hearing is in
25 progress, during the recesses or at any other time. Anyone

1 interested in knowing what has been submitted and not read in
2 this hearing may contact the reporter or me and examine the
3 statements. To accomodate those who have not prepared written
4 statements and who desire to submit written statements or other
5 material relevant to this proceeding, the record will be kept
6 open until March 1st of this year. Written statements or other
7 material submitted prior to March 1st will become part of the
8 official hearing record. These statements should be sent to
9 the Forest Supervisor of the Kootenai National Forest, Post
10 Office Box AS, Libby, Montana.

11 All information received at this hearing will be
12 recorded and a transcript prepared by the reporter after the
13 hearing. The completed transcript will be open to the public
14 for inspection at the offices of the Regional Forester at the
15 Federal Building in Missoula and the Kootenai Forest Supervisor
16 in Libby.

17 Anyone desiring a copy of the transcript should make
18 arrangements with the reporter to obtain one, and the reporter
19 is sitting at the table to my right.

20 For the purpose of determining how many persons desire
21 to make an oral statement, a register has been located at the
22 entrance to this room for those who wish to present statements
23 today. I'll hear people in the order in which they are
24 registered. If you have a written statement that you are
25 reading or summarizing when you make your statement, I would

1 like to have you leave a copy of that statement with the
2 reporter at the time that you finish.

3 First, I'm going to ask the Forest Service to outline
4 the results of their study. Then, I'm going to ask for any
5 elected officials or representatives, if any, followed by any
6 public officials that might be representing federal, state or
7 local departments, and then the general public.

8 First of all, to present the views of the Forest
9 Service we'll hear from Mr. Gary Morgan who will be acting on
10 behalf of Mr. William Morden, who is the Forest Supervisor for
11 the Kootenai National Forest.

12 MR. MORGAN: Thank you, Larry. My name is Gary D.
13 Morgan. I'll be speaking for William Morden who is the Forest
14 Supervisor in the Kootenai National Forest. He is unable to be
15 here.

16 Mr. Presiding Officer, ladies and gentlemen, as
17 directed by the Montana Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150,
18 of November 2nd, 1977, the Forest Service has studied the area
19 known as Ten Lakes for its suitability for preservation as
20 wilderness.

21 The Forest Service proposal is stated in the document
22 entitled: Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area Report
23 and Proposal. I would like to present this publication and a
24 copy of my statement for the official record.

25 The proposal is also shown on the maps right behind me,

1 or in this case, to the front of me.

2 The Forest Service's Proposed Action Alternative for
3 Ten Lakes is nonwilderness. The Proposed Action recommends
4 that approximately fifty-two percent of the area, which is
5 eighteen thousand eight hundred acres, be managed as a roadless
6 recreation area. This roadless recreation area would permit
7 snowmobiling.

8 The remainder of the thirty-five thousand nine hundred
9 acre Study Area would be allocated to other appropriate forms
10 of management, which includes about ten thousand acres where
11 the visual resource is a major consideration, and about six
12 thousand six hundred acres where wildlife, including grizzly
13 bears, receive special emphasis. Timber harvest is scheduled to
14 occur on about sixteen thousand four hundred acres of the Study
15 Area and would be coordinated to protect and enhance the
16 wildlife and visual resources.

17 Five other alternatives were considered in detail
18 during the study of the Ten Lakes. These alternatives included
19 a "No Action" alternative, which represented the existing unit
20 plan allocations for the area which is also nonwilderness.
21 Alternative A recommends a sixteen thousand four hundred acre
22 wilderness. Alternative B proposes a twenty-nine thousand six
23 hundred acre wilderness. Alternative C recommends the entire
24 thirty-five thousand nine hundred acre area for wilderness and
25 Alternative D, which proposes a six thousand five hundred acre

1 wilderness.

2 It should be noted that until Congress decides
3 otherwise, the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area will be managed,
4 subject to existing private rights and uses, to maintain the
5 existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in
6 the National Wilderness Preservation System. No timber harvest,
7 road construction, or other developmental activities will be
8 programmed under any alternative, including the Proposed Action,
9 until Congress makes a final decision on the management of the
10 area.

11 In closing, I will briefly review the scheduled events
12 regarding the study after this hearing. Written statements
13 will be accepted until March 1st, 1983. The report and
14 proposal will be reviewed in light of the statements received
15 and revised, as appropriate. After this review, the Forest
16 Service will submit a final recommendation to the Forest
17 Service Chief and the Secretary of Agriculture, who will in
18 turn transmit them to the President and Congress. Any
19 recommendations by the President for wilderness shall become
20 effective only by an act of Congress. Thank you.

21 HEARINGS OFFICER: Are there any other elected public
22 officials or representatives who would like to make a statement?
23 Are there any public officials that are representing a federal,
24 state or local agency that would like to make a statement? All
25 right. I'll go to the order in which people signed up to speak

1 then. The first person desiring to make a statement is Lloyd
2 West. Please state your name and who you represent, if anyone,
3 other than yourself and if you have a statement, leave it with
4 the reporter.

5 MR. WEST: My name is Lloyd West. I'm not
6 representing anybody but myself and it's really a little bit
7 premature for me to make much of a statement other than just a
8 few generalities due to the fact that I haven't even read this
9 before, I don't know what you're doing or what you have
10 proposed.

11 I will say this, that probably in the valley here that
12 I probably have spent more time and I'm more familiar with the
13 Ten Lakes Scenic Area than probably any one person in the
14 valley. I have used the area for all my life. I'll be
15 sixty-five years old here one of these days. I made my first
16 trip in there when I was five years old. I've been in there, I
17 guess, every year from that time on, except my service time. I
18 worked in that area years ago for the Forest Service. I spent
19 seven years and outfitted in there as a commercial outfitter in
20 later years.

21 I was there before there was any roads or anything in
22 the Graves Creek area and I was somewhat instrumental in
23 getting the thing into a scenic area to start with because we
24 felt that the encroachment of the lumber industry -- of which I
25 was part of at that time; I was in the sawmill business, but I

1 had another -- I still had a very strong feeling about the Ten
2 Lakes country and I didn't feel that we wanted to get up into
3 that country and log it off and road it. So I was quite
4 central. I done a lot of the work, put in a lot of effort to
5 get it into a scenic area.

6 I guess the one statement that I would like to make as
7 far as for my personal -- the way I feel, as an outfitter I was
8 the first one affected when it was put into a scenic area
9 because I was an outfitter that used horses and so, although I
10 had special uses in there and they were denied -- and the fact
11 is, in later years I operated a couple of years with them on
12 the outside of the area -- but I found out that this is not
13 what people want to do when they come to this country to go
14 into the back country. They want to go by horse and they want
15 their horse to be where they are in the evening. They don't
16 want him down the road or three miles away or back out at the
17 ranch. They want that horse there.

18 And as far as the heritage of the West is concerned in
19 comparison to wilderness and the scenic area, one of the main
20 things that people, especially for your eastern countries or
21 your big cities, want to come out for is to ride and to see the
22 country by horse. They don't want to drive, so they are not
23 interested in roads and, but they are interested in going into
24 an area by horse.

25 And I do have some pictures that I think will document

1 the fact that the interpretation of overuse, which did come up
2 before at one time as far as horses being used in the back
3 country and because of the fragile terrain was that they --
4 There was an insistence made that there was some overuse. I
5 think my pictures will document that there isn't any overuse
6 back there, never has been, and until they get a lot more
7 people than there's ever been in there, there won't be.

8 One of the things that I've never seen yet in any of
9 your studies on the Ten Lakes Scenic Area that I have read is
10 the omittance of the fact that the damage that was assessed in
11 there was by people who were not knowledgeable about what
12 actually happened in the Ten Lake Scenic Area. A blame is laid
13 to domestic stock, and when I say "domestic stock", I mean
14 horseshoes for some overuse on some of the trails and in the
15 high alpine meadows. Now, this is absolutely not true. There
16 was domestic sheep out of the Flathead down around Round Butte,
17 South Polson. A fellow by the name of Small ran sheep in that
18 country for three different years, grazed sheep in there, about
19 two thousand head of sheep. And the trails that you see back
20 in that country, the old trails that are barely visible yet,
21 were caused by sheep. They never were caused by horses to
22 start with before now, and I don't think they ever would be.

23 In my studies I have never seen -- I mean, I think
24 that the fact that they didn't want horses in there was
25 definitely related to what they saw in the ground, but it was

1 never caused by horses and that was one point that I really
2 wanted to bring out here that I have never seen anything, any
3 place even up there where anyone can show me that -- or I've
4 never been shown at least, where there actually is any reason
5 not to allow stock to be used in the Ten Lake Scenic Area. And
6 the only reason I would opt for a wilderness classification
7 over scenic classification is the fact that the Wilderness Act
8 provides the fact that you can use stock and that would be my
9 only reason.

10 Other than that, I would have no reason to judge it
11 either way. But I think that it was misjudged earlier and the
12 users of stock in there were -- Well, I think they were just --
13 I don't know how to put it in words. I think they were
14 discriminated against. I don't think they do anywhere near the
15 damage in the country that the snowmobiles do, and I've no
16 objection to the snowmobiles because I think they do very
17 little, but I certainly don't think the horses do either.
18 Thank you.

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: Doug Evans.

20 MR. EVANS: I have no statement to make at this time.

21 HEARINGS OFFICER: Fine. Bill Cunningham.

22 MR. CUNNINGHAM: My name is Bill Cunningham. I'm
23 Conservation Director for the Montana Wilderness Association in
24 Helena, P.O. Box 635, Helena, Montana. I have, at this time, a
25 preliminary statement on the draft report of the Ten Lakes

1 Wilderness Study Area which I would like to submit before the
2 end of the comment deadline on March 1st. I will split my
3 statement between testimony presented here in Eureka and
4 testimony which I intend to offer at the Libby hearing tomorrow.

5 In late July of 1980, it was my privilege to lead a
6 Montana Wilderness Association Wilderness Walk in cooperation
7 with the local office of the Forest Service on a three-day
8 backpack into the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. I was
9 tremendously impressed with the beauty and the high wilderness
10 suitability of the country.

11 My nine-year-old son went with me and he still talks
12 about that trip. Everything seemed to go right. We had good
13 weather, great country, good fishing, good comradeship with the
14 people that were on the trip and it was just one of those
15 perfect occasions. I was also very much impressed with the
16 positive attitude of land stewardship that was expressed by the
17 local Forest Service officials who participated in the tour. I
18 was confident at that time that at least some of the wilderness
19 resource area in Ten Lakes would be recommended for inclusion
20 in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

21 I must now confess amazement and disappointment that
22 no part of the Ten Lakes Area is being proposed at this time
23 for a congressional wilderness designation in the draft report.

24 The decision to include Ten Lakes in Senator Metcalf's
25 Montana Wilderness Study Act was not made lightly, nor was it

1 made in a vacuum. Only nine of the original one hundred
2 eighty-two nonselected Rare I areas in Montana were included in
3 the Montana study bill. The selection was made carefully in
4 consultation with Senator Metcalf and local conservationists
5 and it was based on high wilderness suitability of each of the
6 areas, including Ten Lakes. Montana study bill, otherwise
7 known as S.393, is a unique citizen's bill that was conceived
8 in the crucible of democracy and which provides a fresh new
9 mandate and an opportunity for the Forest Service to apply a
10 new approach to the evaluation of nearly one million acres of
11 high-quality wild country environs entrusted to its care. As
12 to study processes proceeded in the past five years, we've seen
13 only one third of one of the six S.393 areas thus far studied
14 receive a tentative agency wilderness recommendation. I am
15 disillusioned by the process and the way in which the process
16 is being implemented by the Forest Service and as I mentioned,
17 my disillusionment does run deep with regard to the
18 nonwilderness recommendation for Ten Lakes.

19 I studied the report carefully and I'll continue to go
20 through the report in more detail, but it's my impression that
21 the report violates both the spirit and the letter of the
22 Montana Wilderness Study Act, which mandates an objective
23 wilderness study of the nine wilderness areas that are contained
24 in the bill.

25 In the first place, I do not believe that this report in

1 question today is a wilderness study. The report contains
2 almost nothing about the wilderness resource in Ten Lakes. The
3 study would be more appropriately described as a nonwilderness
4 study in that much more information is presented on timber,
5 mineral potential and ORV uses, such as snowmobiling, than
6 about the actual wilderness resource.

7 In reading the report, I found it to be sterile and
8 repetitive, seemingly absent of any feeling or sensitivity for
9 the fragile, remnant wild landscape we call Ten Lakes.

10 Although I personally know that this is not the case, there is
11 no real evidence that the writers of the report have ever even
12 been inside the Wilderness Study Area, or at least that they
13 have ever visited the area on its own terms for an extensive
14 period of time using primitive means of travel, such as foot or
15 horseback.

16 And I would agree with the gentleman who just spoke
17 that Ten Lakes is fine horse country and would like to keep
18 this that way. But it seems to me that only by getting out in
19 the country on foot or horseback can genuine sensitivity
20 towards the wilderness resource be developed. Without this
21 deep sensitivity, which appears, at least on the surface, to be
22 lacking in the report, there can be no wilderness study.

23 A wilderness study should give the reviewer an
24 in-depth discussion and description of the wilderness resource
25 on a basin-by-basin basis. Opportunities for solitude and

1 primitive recreation should be described in detail with
2 emphasis on topographic and geologic features, on natural
3 beauty and on the vegetative and habitat types. Because the
4 Ten Lakes Area consists of virgin, undeveloped country which
5 has essentially avoided human-caused change, a discussion of
6 the influence of naturally occurring evolutionary change within
7 the Study Area would be appropriate over time. In particular,
8 the Study Area should more carefully discuss wildland dependent
9 wildlife species, such as the threatened grizzly bear, which
10 live inside the area or in portions of the area at various
11 times of the year. The study should then relate the special
12 habitat requirements of these species to the particular
13 habitats and micro-habitats within the actual Ten Lake
14 Wilderness Study Area.

15 Lacking also in the report is a discussion of the
16 special wild character of Ten Lakes and of each portion of Ten
17 Lakes so that the reviewer can discern what is really unique
18 about the land in question. In short, we should learn
19 something about the mood or the feeling of the place. Again,
20 nothing comes through in the report that gives the reviewer any
21 insight in this respect.

22 The Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area cannot be viewed
23 in a vacuum and cannot be viewed as an isolated island apart
24 from the land surrounding it. It obviously is affected by the
25 influences of what occurs outside. It's a very small, a very

1 fragile, a very vulnerable area. It's not sufficient to
2 protect only the high, rocky core of alpine country, six
3 thousand acres, or of the eighteen thousand acres which is
4 proposed for roadless management in the draft, but rather
5 because of the in-roads, the intrusions, the surrounding of the
6 area by extensive roading and logging, it's very important to
7 maintain as much of that existing resource, roadless resource,
8 as is possible. Even the thirty-five thousand nine hundred
9 acre area is by no means excessive when you consider that it's
10 the last small wild remnant in that portion of the Whitefish
11 Range.

12 The Ten Lakes Area should also be viewed within the
13 context of the entire Kootenai National Forest, which proposes
14 in the forest plan to designate more than one and a half
15 million acres as regulated suitable timberland contributing
16 automatically after fifty years some three hundred eighty-eight
17 million board feet. While the couple of million board feet
18 that might be possible from Ten Lakes and the sixteen thousand
19 acres of so-called commercial forest land that would be logged
20 and roaded with sixty-nine miles of new roads, according to the
21 draft, is really insignificant compared to the one and a half
22 million acres and the nearly four hundred million feet of
23 harvest that would come off the Kootenai Forest under the
24 proposed plan. I think we all agree that we've got to have a
25 viable timber industry and that there's a lot of fine

1 timber-producing land on the Kootenai Forest that should
2 contribute to this country.

3 We also need to take care of our recreation industry
4 because in this part of the country we know that the timber
5 industry has been depressed. Many people have temporarily lost
6 their jobs and it's had a serious impact. But one note of
7 stability in our economy has been the recreation industry and
8 we need to preserve and protect small pieces of wild country
9 for a sustained long-term recreation industry.

10 The Ten Lakes Area cannot be all things to all people.
11 If we try to maximize it for timber, if we try to maximize the
12 area for snowmobiling and for other uses that are not legally
13 possible within wilderness, then the Ten Lakes will be nothing
14 to anyone. It's important to recognize what we really have
15 here. No one is proposing an expansion of wilderness. We're
16 merely proposing a formal recognition of what we already have.
17 We'll never have one acre more of wilderness than we have right
18 now today, January 17th, 1983. The best we can do is preserve
19 a small part of what we already have.

20 At least eight-five to ninety percent of the Kootenai
21 Forest will be managed intensively for the full range of
22 nonwilderness multiple uses. The Ten Lakes Area is an
23 important part of the wilderness resource that we should
24 maintain. The Montana Wilderness Study Act gives us an
25 opportunity to do that without detracting significantly from

1 the timber base and without preventing significant
2 opportunities for legitimate forms of motorized recreation,
3 such as snowmobiling. There are millions of acres of country
4 that are appropriately open for snowmobiling throughout
5 Northwestern Montana and certainly we need areas for that type
6 of activity.

7 We also need places where the nonmotorized
8 recreationist, be he on foot or horseback, can get away from
9 the sights and sounds of mechanized civilization. The Ten
10 Lakes Area gives us that opportunity.

11 I urge the Forest Service, in conclusion, to adopt
12 Alternative C in its final recommendations for a thirty-five
13 thousand nine hundred acre Ten Lakes Wilderness. I should note
14 that this so-called maximum boundary does include several
15 cutover areas and old logging road penetration areas which
16 amount to a couple hundred acres, and the final boundary should
17 actually exclude the edges of these cutting areas so that we
18 would probably end up with a wilderness of somewhere in the
19 neighborhood of thirty-five thousand five hundred acres. The
20 Alternative C should have been modified to reflect the need to
21 clean up the boundaries in certain areas, but still protect
22 most of the roadless land resource, wilderness resource,
23 wildlife resources, which exists.

24 In the absence of formal wilderness designation, the
25 Ten Lakes Area will change. The proposal calls for sixty-nine

1 new miles of road in the Ten Lakes Area with intensive
2 development over time of the sixteen thousand four hundred
3 acres that are proposed as part of the regulated timber base.
4 It's very important for people to understand, who might be leery
5 about wilderness, to recognize that the Ten Lakes Area will not
6 remain as it is. It will not remain as a high-quality
7 primitive recreation area unless we have the permanent, long-term,
8 statutory protection of wild country that only the Wilderness
9 Act can provide.

10 In conclusion, while this, Mr. Presiding Officer,
11 completes the testimony that I would like to offer today, I
12 would like to read a letter into the record, a short letter
13 from my son, who accompanied me on the trip into Ten Lakes two
14 years ago.

15 "My name is Justin Cunningham of Helena, Montana. I
16 am twelve years old now, but when I was about nine, I went on a
17 Montana Wilderness Association backpacking trip which my dad
18 led in July 1980. We camped at a lake called Bluebird Lake,
19 with trout that we caught and had for dinner. Also, at the same
20 lake I caught toads and frogs almost as big as my hand. From
21 Bluebird Lake we hiked onto the main Ten Lakes Ridge where we
22 could look down and see a lot of lakes. We could see a lot of
23 rock chucks also.

24 We hiked to Stahl Mountain which had a lookout on the
25 top. We could see British Columbia and Glacier Park. I would

1 prefer it if you would keep the Ten Lakes Area the way it was
2 when I was nine. So, please choose Alternative C so that there
3 will be a thirty-five thousand nine hundred acre Ten Lakes
4 Wilderness Area."

5 I've appreciated the opportunity to submit this
6 testimony.

7 HEARINGS OFFICER: Jay Vest.

8 MR. VEST: My name is Jay Vest and I'm from Missoula,
9 Montana, and first of all, what I would like to try to
10 emphasize here is we are certainly under a very difficult time
11 right now economically speaking, but I want to emphasize that
12 wilderness is not to blame for that. Wilderness has given us
13 all it can.

14 Historically speaking, when the first Europeans
15 arrived in North America, let's go back to, say, the Fifteenth
16 Century. They came looking for profits, greed, in a search for
17 gold and disrupted the stable state economies of the natives
18 that were there. For example, Cortez and De Soto remarked in
19 their journals that the fields of Native Americans were, in
20 productivity, worth five times to European fields. The
21 discovery of immense amounts of new crops and foods to feed
22 people were discovered through this act.

23 Now, the point I want to make here is that from that
24 time on, we came, or at least the early Europeans came, in
25 search of greed and gold and they went about exploiting the

1 continent. They exploited away ninety-eight percent of the
2 continent. So today we have maybe two percent of it left in
3 any kind of wild condition.

4 Now, I won't say that all of North America was wild at
5 the time that these first Europeans, say, came. That's far
6 from the truth. The truth is that these Native Americans
7 practiced some very complex land use schemes. They burned
8 areas for edge effect and to produce more forage for wildlife
9 and this sort of thing. That goes along with our attempts
10 today to graze on land. And I think that that's good and I
11 think that it's good that we continue in those kinds of
12 agricultural traditions, but secondly, the thing that I
13 think -- Another aspect of the Native American land use scheme
14 was that they had sacred places, sacred wild places, and these
15 places were for the solitary wild, such as the vision quest. And
16 the theme that we're talking about here today is built on that
17 whole theme. This occurred in Europe.

18 The first civilization of Europe, the Celtic
19 civilization, had what's known as nematons. These were known
20 as wilderness sanctuaries where people went out to see, as a
21 measure of health for the land that they lived on, the land
22 that they worked. So out of that I would like to say that we
23 do have a basis for preserving wilderness.

24 Today, much of our country is overran. It is
25 domesticated. I want balance. When I say that, we've got,

1 we've got huge, humongous cities that cannot support themselves
2 and all the blacktop of the, for example, the East Coast and so
3 forth -- The point that I'm trying to make here, and even in
4 Montana, if we were to take this, just a small community like
5 Kalispell, it would probably, in terms of acreage under
6 blacktop and pavement, would equal what we've got in a place
7 like the Ten Lakes. Now that's balance. I think that's what
8 we've got to have. The point is, of course, we want to -- We
9 want to continue to have our good, productive agriculture lands
10 and I can -- We've got to stay that way in Montana...

11 Agriculture and recreation, these are probably our two best
12 choices for the future.

13 We've got, as Bill mentioned earlier, we have one
14 point five million acre timber base in the Kootenai Forest.
15 The little bit that we can get from the Ten Lakes matters very
16 little. The point there is that we no longer have a
17 wilderness-based economy. If we do, we're in big trouble,
18 extreme trouble, because only two percent of the land is now
19 available for wilderness. And if you continue on pacing your
20 economy, overexploiting the land, that is, the wilderness, then
21 you're going to collapse and that's the situation that we're in.
22 We're in a severe depression right now. I don't use the term
23 recession; it's a depression and it's because that our economy
24 has failed to adjust to the circumstances. We started out with
25 a wilderness-dependent economy and today there is no wilderness

1 left. Basically there's this two percent. So what we have to
2 do is we have to move into some sort of stable kind of economic
3 situation where we can maintain it. We have to move toward
4 renewables and things that we can sustain.

5 Now, I would like to continue a little more on some
6 other aspects of our situation. First of all, what right do we
7 have to modify all of the earth as a species? Let's just speak
8 of the human species. The total, complete modification of any
9 kind of place is a very chauvinistic kind of thing to do.

10 Other species rival us for their intelligence, such as,
11 for example, the grizzly bear. The grizzly bear is cognizant
12 of its tracks and it's the only animal that we know, other than
13 the human being, that will actually cover its tracks; that is,
14 when someone is tracking them, disguise them. It seems to me a
15 creature of that kind of magnitude and intelligence, it seems --
16 When you've got a million and a half acres available for timber
17 harvest, for other forms of dispersed recreation, such as
18 snowmobiling and this sort of thing, that it's a small price to
19 pay to try to preserve some habitat for this wilderness-dependent
20 species that rivals us in intelligence and that sort of thing.
21 I firmly feel that when we go about destroying the diversity of
22 the earth and its species, that we are, in effect, we're
23 committing a kind of a murder.

24 Our charge is really coexistence and we have to say,
25 at one point, we've gone too far. We have to try and coexist

1 with these other things. The wilderness evolved us as a
2 species. We are better for it. It was hardly our greatest
3 evil, as some people like to suggest. After all, we emerged
4 from it. We emerged dominant. That makes it our greatest good.
5 So if we've got any alliance or allegiance at all, then it
6 should be to that which has preserved us, developed us, and
7 given us life and I think now we have to begin to show some of
8 that. I think that it's a small price to pay to establish a
9 thirty-eight thousand nine -- I mean thirty-five thousand nine
10 hundred acre wilderness.

11 So I support Alternative C in this matter and I do not
12 think that it will be costing us in the way that so many people
13 want to suggest in terms of jobs and this sort of thing because
14 we're talking a very small percentage of the timber base for
15 the Kootenai National Forest and I think we'll more than pick
16 up on that aspect just through recreational use, such as the
17 first gentleman mentioned when he first spoke. So thank you
18 and I would like to remark also at Libby tomorrow and make a
19 formal critique of the statement at a later date. Thank you.

20 HEARINGS OFFICER: That concludes all the cards that I
21 have here of people who indicated a desire to make a statement
22 at this time. Is there anyone else present who would like to
23 come forward at this time and make a statement? What we'll do,
24 then, is we'll take a recess here until three o'clock and see
25 if anybody shows up and then we'll see where we are at that

1 time. Thank you.

2 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 2:55 p.m. and
3 subsequently reconvened at 3:05 p.m., and the following
4 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

5 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's a little bit after three
6 and I said I would reconvene at three. Let's reconvene and see
7 if there's anybody else here that wants to make a statement at
8 this time. When we recessed at 2:45, the purpose was to give
9 some people a chance to come that might want to make a
10 statement by three o'clock and it's a little after three now.
11 It's 3:05. Is there anyone who has now come to the room here
12 that would like to make a statement at this time?

13 Tom Skelly. Come forward and state your name and whom
14 you represent, if anybody, and where you're from.

15 MR. SKELLY: I'm from Eureka. Well, I've been here
16 all my life and I know the Ten Lakes country. I was up -- I
17 guess the first time I ever went up there was 1946 or '47 and
18 at that time it was all wilderness and I guess I thought it
19 would be wilderness, but then nineteen -- the same year, a
20 couple years afterwards, the bugs, spruce beetle, hit that
21 country and it was all gone, other than the Ten Lakes Area,
22 where they couldn't -- There was no logging. And I can't
23 really see today, the area that you have on your maps there, I
24 think it should still stay scenic area. And I'm not opposed to --
25 I don't think logging would be opposed to just leaving it the

1 same, other than the fact that if you would happen to hit a
2 rich gold stream down there, then maybe we would all want to
3 get after it, but I think it should just stay the way it is.
4 It shouldn't be wilderness. You know, it's not wilderness.
5 Thank you.

6 HEARINGS OFFICER: Is there anyone else who would like
7 to make a statement? All right. If nobody else has come, I guess
8 we'll recess until 3:30 and what we plan to do, normally if
9 nobody has showed up we would recess until the evening hearing,
10 but the ranger of the Fortine District has indicated to some
11 individuals that the hearing would be open from two to five and
12 anyone who cared to come in at any time during that period of
13 time to make a statement could. So we'll recess until 3:30 and
14 come back and if there is still nobody here, we might come back
15 at 4:30 and see if anyone has turned out, but until then, we'll
16 see how it goes. We'll be in recess until about 3:30 now.

17 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 3:10 p.m. and
18 subsequently reconvened at 3:30 p.m., and the following
19 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

20 HEARINGS OFFICER: If I could have your attention for a
21 minute. Has anybody else come now? It's 3:30 and I said we
22 would wait till 3:30. Is there anybody else that has come in
23 that would like to make a statement now?

24 MR. GOULD: I guess I will. Do I need to sign in?

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: No. State your name and whom you

1 represent, if anyone, and where you're from.

2 MR. GOULD: My name is Bill Gould. I am Lincoln
3 County Commissioner from this area and I live off the Burma
4 Road, which actually would border the proposed wilderness site.
5 Well, I've lived here about ten years, and about six years ago,
6 working for the Soil Conservation Service taking snow surveys,
7 I got up into the Ten Lakes Area during the wintertime. My son
8 and I have camped at Wolverine Cabin several times, including
9 summer and wintertime.

10 As I read the sense of people in this community, I
11 think they would like to preserve the area pretty much as it is;
12 that is, managed as a scenic area with limited use of motor
13 vehicles. If anything, I think they would probably like to see
14 the scenic area expanded, but I think, and this is a personal
15 feeling, I think the options available by keeping it scenic are
16 actually greater than if it's designated wilderness. I think
17 it provides more recreation for more people as a scenic area
18 than it would if it were designated wilderness.

19 When we went up on snow cats for snow surveys, there
20 were considerable signs that a lot of people use that area for
21 snowmobiling. We would see trails going up all different
22 directions from the roads we were going up. I think
23 designating it as a wilderness area will put quite a hardship
24 on the snowmobilers who are accustomed to using that right now.

25 I think also, from the standpoint of timber use, locking

1 it up in wilderness is not that appropriate right now. I think
2 we have a potential bug problem that may need tending to down
3 the road a ways. If it's tied up as wilderness area, I don't
4 think we could take appropriate action to salvage the bug kill.

5 I guess overall my recommendation would be to support
6 the proposed Forest Service use of the area with, perhaps, an
7 expanded scenic designation over and above what they include in
8 their proposal. Thank you.

9 HEARINGS OFFICER: Is there anyone else? Is anyone
10 aware of anyone who had planned to come this afternoon to make
11 a statement, but thought they would come at a later time prior
12 to five o'clock?

13 MR. PRITCHARD: Larry, I don't know of anyone in
14 particular, but I do know that there were people invited with
15 the connotation the thing would be open. I would think if we
16 recessed now for forty-five minutes or an hour or something and
17 then came back and tried to catch those people at 4:15 or 4:30,
18 that would probably be appropriate with the information that
19 had gone out.

20 HEARINGS OFFICER: That sounds reasonable. Why don't
21 we do this, let's recess until 4:30 and if someone from the
22 Forest Service would put a note on the entrance door to this
23 room indicating that we'll be back here at 4:30 if they would
24 like to make a statement. We will be in recess then until 4:30.

25 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 3:40 p.m. and

1 subsequently reconvened at 4:30 p.m., and the following
2 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

3 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, if I could have everybody's
4 attention. It's 4:30 and we were going to reconvene at 4:30 to
5 see if anybody else has come that would like to make a
6 statement relative to Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area Proposal.
7 At this time, is there anybody who would like to come forward
8 and make a statement relative to the area? Okay, I have the
9 name here. I'll let you pronounce your own name. Just state
10 your name and whom you represent, if anyone other than yourself
11 and where you're from.

12 MR. WEYDEMEYER: I'm Winton Weydemeyer from the
13 Fortine area, speaking as an individual, one who has
14 acquaintance with this area covering a period of more than
15 seventy years during which time I have hiked, climbed, ridden,
16 skied, hunted or fished in most sections of the Study Area
17 itself. Over the years I have seen that section of the
18 Whitefish Range dissolve from a total roadless wilderness to a
19 mountain range ribboned by roads, patterned by clearcuts, and
20 heavily used by backpackers, sportsmen, snowmobilers and the
21 general motoring public. I have seen alpine terrain trampled
22 and littered. My reaction is to declare, "Enough is enough.
23 Let's protect what little wild country that remains."

24 While recognizing that wilderness designation for all
25 or a part of the Study Area might result in increased human

1 pressures on the natural aspects of the area, I pose a basic
2 question: Which would be preferable, protection and
3 administration under wilderness designation, or management
4 under less restrictive and more flexible multiple-use direction?

5 Perhaps a bit of history will shed light on this
6 question.

7 Over a long period in the past I personally sought
8 protection of the Therriault Lakes region adjacent to the
9 present Study Area. At one time I was assured by the Forest
10 Service that no road would be built closer than five miles from
11 Big Therriault Lake. Later, under changing plans and Forest
12 Service personnel, I was told that the distance would be two
13 miles; later, half a mile. Now, as you all know, cars drive to
14 the shores of the lake.

15 Under this sort of administration, what could happen
16 to the Ten Lakes Area in the future? It seems to me that
17 official wilderness designation is urgent. Ruling out the
18 Proposed Action plan, which would leave the entire area as
19 nonwilderness, which Alternate Plan offers the best solution?

20 Alternative D, designating the original scenic area of
21 sixty-five hundred acres as wilderness, while opening
22 surrounding lands to development, is not acceptable. The area
23 is too small, recreational use would be too concentrated, and
24 inadequate buffer zone would be provided.

25 Alternative A, providing a somewhat larger wilderness

1 section, but providing for timber management on more than half
2 of the Study Area, would still leave the proposed wilderness
3 section too restricted and narrow.

4 Alternative C, giving wilderness designation to the
5 entire Study Area, would provide the greatest protection to the
6 natural aspects of that portion of the range, as well as
7 preserving the largest area of undeveloped grizzly bear habitat.
8 I recognize that objection to this plan will be raised because
9 it will exclude timber harvesting on some outreach boundary
10 areas which do not possess outstanding wilderness character.

11 Alternative B plan overcomes these objections by
12 excluding these areas in the northwest lobe, west and north of
13 Independence Peak, and in the southern portion of the southern
14 lobe, the little Gibraltar area.

15 The Kootenai National Forest plan, which calls for
16 nearly tripling the mileage of roads by the year 2030, admits
17 that the demand for roadless recreation will not be met. In
18 view of those projections and other considerations, it is my
19 recommendation that Alternative C, providing wilderness
20 designation for the entire Study Area, be adopted. As a
21 necessary compromise minimum, I would strongly support
22 Alternative B.

23 May I compliment the Forest Service for an excellent
24 study of this area, and for the opportunity to present these
25 views. Thank you.

1 HEARINGS OFFICER: Is there anyone else at this time?

2 Okay. What I'm going to do is just wait here until five
3 o'clock and if anybody from the Forest Service or myself, if
4 you see somebody wander in, if they're interested in making a
5 statement then we'll just convene at that time. So we'll just
6 recess and stay here until five and see what happens.

7 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 3:40 p.m. and
8 subsequently reconvened at 5:00 p.m., and the following
9 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

10 HEARINGS OFFICER: It's five o'clock. I don't think
11 anybody else has come in so I presume nobody wants to make a
12 statement so we'll recess now until seven o'clock.

13 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 5:00 p.m. and
14 subsequently reconvened at 7:00 p.m., and the following
15 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

16 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's seven o'clock, I think
17 we'll get started. We recessed the hearing this afternoon at
18 five o'clock with the idea that we would reconvene this evening
19 at seven o'clock, so the hearing will please come to order.

20 This hearing has been called for the purpose of
21 considering the results of the Forest Service studies
22 concerning the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. For
23 those of you who weren't here this afternoon, which I'm sure
24 most of you weren't, I'm going to take a few minutes to go over
25 the nature and purpose of the hearing to be sure that everyone

1 is fully apprised of what the hearing is for and how the record
2 has been established so far, and I'll briefly review the
3 background for the hearings also.

4 On November 1st of 1977, Congress passed the Montana
5 Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150. The Act requires the
6 Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations to
7 Congress on the wilderness suitability of nine separate
8 national forest areas in Montana comprising nine hundred
9 seventy-three thousand acres. Two of the areas, Mount Henry
10 and Ten Lakes, are on the Kootenai National Forest...

11 The Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area, an
12 area of thirty-five thousand nine hundred acres, was analyzed
13 as part of the Kootenai National Forest Planning Process. A
14 map of the Ten Lakes Area and its environs, as well as maps of
15 the alternatives analyzed by the Forest Service, are displayed
16 on walls in this room.

17 This hearing session and succeeding sessions at Libby
18 and Kalispell on January 18th and 19th are being held to
19 consider the results of the Kootenai National Forest study for
20 the Ten Lakes Area.

21 Public notice to conduct this hearing was published in
22 the Federal Register and also several Montana newspapers. In
23 accordance with the public notice this hearing was convened
24 this afternoon at two o'clock on January 17th at the Eureka
25 Grade School at Eureka, Montana. I've been designated as the

1 presiding officer of this hearing. My name is Lawrence M.
2 Jakub and I'm the attorney involved for the Office of General
3 Counsel for the Department of Agriculture located at Missoula,
4 Montana.

5 A few words about the procedure which will be followed
6 this evening. This hearing is not a debate, a trial, or a
7 question and answer assembly, but is merely an advisory hearing
8 wherein all interested persons may present written or oral
9 statements or other information relative to the matters named
10 in the notice for consideration by the Regional Forester. The
11 statement of all interested persons will not be taken under
12 oath, and each person desiring to express their views should
13 come to the front of the room and state their name, their
14 address and whom they represent, if anyone, and the nature of
15 their interest in the matter. You'll be speaking at the
16 microphone where I am standing, at the podium here at the front
17 table.

18 When giving your statement, you should speak slowly
19 and distinctly so that the court reporter to my right can
20 record the complete statement. I'm not going to set a time
21 limit for each individual speaker, however, I think statements
22 not exceeding five to ten minutes should be appropriate.

23 In lieu of making an oral statement, interested
24 persons may file written statements discussing the results of
25 the study. Written statements or exhibits submitted during the

1 hearing will become a part of the hearing record and will be
2 available for public inspection while this hearing is in
3 progress, during recesses or at any other time. Anyone
4 interested in knowing what has been submitted and not read in
5 this hearing may contact the reporter or me and examine the
6 statement. To accommodate those who have not prepared written
7 statements and who desire to submit a written statement, the
8 record will be kept open until March 1st, 1983. Written
9 statements or other materials submitted prior to March 1st will
10 become a part of the official hearing record. These statements
11 should be sent to the Forest Supervisor of the Kootenai
12 National Forest, Libby, Montana.

13 All information received at this hearing will be
14 recorded and a transcript is being prepared by the reporter
15 after the hearing. The completed transcript will be open to
16 the public for inspection at the offices of the Regional
17 Forester in Missoula and at the Kootenai National Forest
18 Headquarters located at Libby.

19 Anyone desiring a copy of the transcript should make
20 arrangements with the reporter to obtain one. And as I
21 indicated, the reporter is sitting to my right.

22 What we've done to determine the order in which people
23 will speak who have indicated an interest in doing so, they've
24 been asked to register as they came in. So I have the names
25 here of a couple of people, which I'll call in the order in

1 which they signed up. If anyone else would like to make a
2 statement, you can either come down and sign up there at the
3 registration desk, or as we proceed through you can just come
4 forward as I call for interested persons to come forward.

5 The first person who has indicated a desire to make a
6 statement is Robert Kearney. Would you come forward and state
7 your name and your address.

8 I might mention if you're reading from a statement or
9 if you have a statement, leave a copy of it with the reporter,
10 if you would, when you're finished, please.

11 MR. KEARNEY: My name is Robert Kearney and I don't
12 really have a whole lot to say, but I would just like to know
13 why they want to change it from a scenic area to a wilderness
14 area. Don't make no sense to me. If it was a scenic area, you
15 could go in there pretty handy and have a pretty good time, but
16 if they change it to a wilderness area, how much are they going
17 to chop off? That's about all I have to say. We would like to
18 go in there snow catting in the wintertime, but if they change
19 it to a wilderness area, we can't go in there. Can't go
20 fishing in the wintertime because nobody wants to walk that far.
21 I guess that's all I have. Thank you.

22 HEARINGS OFFICER: Brad Osler.

23 MR. OSLER: I was going to say the same thing he was
24 saying there.

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Those are the only two

1 names I have of people who preregistered. Is there anyone who
2 would like to come forward and make a statement at this time
3 relevant to this Ten Lakes Proposed Study Area? All right.

4 MR. MONTGOMERY: I do. I want to make a statement.
5 Maybe it's inappropriate. Would it be possible to explain the
6 difference between a scenic and a wilderness area?

7 HEARINGS OFFICER: Maybe you ought to take that up
8 with one of your local foresters. You can, but like I
9 indicated earlier, the purpose of the hearing is to hear
10 statements by people relative to the area. It's probably a
11 legitimate question, but you probably ought to take it up with
12 one of your officers. Is there anyone who would like to come
13 forward and make a statement at this time? Why don't you come
14 forward and state your name and where you're from and whom you
15 represent, if anyone, other than yourself.

16 MR. HOLDER: My name is Stan Holder and I'm from
17 Eureka. I represent myself and I think that to change the Ten
18 Lakes Scenic Area into a wilderness area would really be a
19 detriment to our local community because there's a lot of
20 people that use that country in the wintertime to snow cat and,
21 however, I would like to see the existing road systems left
22 like they are and no more roads built into the places that are
23 roadless right now. That's all.

24 HEARINGS OFFICER: Is there anyone else who would like
25 to come up and make a statement? All right.

1 MR. EVANS: My name is Doug Evans. I've lived in
2 Eureka for three years now and I really like the area. I've
3 been up in the Ten Lakes Area a little bit and it's quite a
4 treasure in itself. I hate to see it disturbed in any way.
5 I've done some traveling cross-country and I think that the
6 area up there is really nice and it's something you have to go
7 a long distance to find another area like that. I would like
8 to see it preserved.

9 As I understand it, if it's kept as a scenic area,
10 there's a chance that the Forest Service could adopt or make
11 amends so that it could be logged off, and also there will be
12 an addition of sixty-nine miles of road that will be added in
13 one of the provisions. I would like to see it kept as a
14 wilderness area because then it would be preserved from now on.

15 I think that we have to look farther than just the
16 local people as far as income in the logging industry and as
17 far as snow catting. It's fun and I enjoy that kind of stuff,
18 too, but I think that looking farther down the road that we
19 should think of our grandkids and hope that some of that
20 country would be preserved for them. There's only two percent
21 of the nature that's left as a wilderness area and I would like
22 to see it kept that way, if we could. I think I would like to
23 see, promote Plan C in that it would be retained strictly as a
24 wilderness area. Thank you.

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: Is there anyone else who would like

1 to make a statement now? Carl Pershall.

2 MR. PERSHALL: I just have a prepared statement that I
3 have wrote here promoting the use of snowmobiles in the Ten
4 Lake Scenic Area. Snowmobiling in the Ten Lakes Scenic Area
5 provides a unique experience to the public. Because of the
6 open basins and the talus slopes, a snowmobiler can enjoy the
7 beauty of the area and at the same time have a wilderness
8 experience. It's close enough to vehicle access that a one-day
9 trip can cover several thousand acres and with Wolverine Cabin,
10 an overnight stay is also possible. In the springtime while
11 the valleys are thawing out, the snow conditions are ideal in
12 the high country for the beautiful scenery and snow recreation.

13 HEARINGS OFFICER: Would anyone else like to come forward
14 to make a statement? Has anyone else been registered? Well,
15 if nobody else wants to come forward at this time, what we'll
16 do is I'll give you a chance to kind of think about what's been
17 said and maybe you want to make a statement a little bit later
18 or somebody else will come in that wants to make a statement.
19 What we'll do is take a ten minute recess and we'll reconvene
20 and then you'll decide whether you want to make one or wait
21 until someone else comes. So we'll be in recess until 7:25.

22 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 7:15 p.m. and
23 subsequently reconvened at 7:25 p.m., and the following
24 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's 7:25, I think we'll

1 reconvene. When we recessed, I indicated that when we started
2 I would ask any of those who wanted to make a statement to come
3 forward and have a chance to think over what's been said and
4 find out whether you now want to make a statement. Is there
5 anyone here that would now like to make a statement relative to
6 the Forest Service proposal for the Ten Lakes Area? All right,
7 come forward and state your name and where you're from.

8 MR. HENDERSON: My name is Gary Henderson and I live
9 here in Eureka. The proposed area, the Ten Lakes Area that is
10 now scenic, I would like to see personally, and I'm sure I have
11 friends that live here and if they could be here tonight, they
12 probably would speak the same, but I would like to see it
13 classified as a wilderness for our children in the future.

14 There's not enough wilderness, in my opinion, there's
15 not enough wilderness in this country today and if there's any
16 chance that we could get another fifty-six thousand acres of
17 land classified as a wilderness, I would like to see it
18 classified that way. I think there's a lot of other ground
19 that we can use to make a living off of and not enough that
20 just shows the true natural beauty of our country. It would be
21 a pleasure for me to see that classified similar to a Bob
22 Marshall Wilderness where you could hunt and fish and ride a
23 horse in and breathe the fresh air and drink the mountain water,
24 and that's what I would like to see it classified. Thank you.

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: Is there anyone else? All right.

1 MR. MILLER: My name is Mike Miller and I've lived in
2 Eureka all my life and I think what some of these people that's
3 involved in here don't realize is that the original people that
4 were here have taken care of this land, and that's what they're
5 coming into. They've got the side that they can come in here
6 and change things and tell people what to do and what they
7 would like to see done with the country. Well, there's a lot
8 of them that have moved in here in the last two or three years
9 that probably don't realize that there's some of these old
10 people that's taken care of this country all their lives and
11 what are you going to do with them when they can't walk in
12 there? It's not just for our grandkids. It's for the people
13 that took care of the country years ago, also. There's no
14 reason that this land can't be used as just a scenic area the
15 way it is now. If it was managed by the Forest Service the way
16 it's supposed to be, we would still have a scenic area.

17 HEARINGS OFFICER: Anyone else who would like to come
18 forward and make a statement? All right, if no one else wants
19 to come forward and make a statement, what I'm going to do is --
20 If there's no one else here that wants to make a statement, I
21 think what I'm going to do is just recess for about ten more
22 minutes and then I'm going to reconvene and if there isn't
23 anyone else who wants to make a statement then, I'm just going
24 to adjourn the hearing until tomorrow afternoon. We'll be in
25 recess then until twenty minutes to eight.

1 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 7:32 p.m. and
2 subsequently reconvened at 7:40 p.m., and the following
3 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

4 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's twenty to eight now and
5 I think we'll reconvene and ask if there's anyone now who would
6 like to come forward and make a statement or anyone who has
7 come who would like to make a statement that wasn't here before?

8 MR. KEARNEY: Yeah, I would like to.

9 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Why don't you come up
10 and state your name and where you're from.

11 MR. KEARNEY: I'm Pat Kearney. I'm from Eureka. The
12 Forest Service's proposed plan doesn't look too bad to me, I
13 would like to log the whole thing, but they've got a better
14 idea than making it all wilderness. That's all I got to say.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: Anyone else? All right. If not,
16 what I'm going to do is evidently the Forest Service has
17 indicated that the people could come in throughout the time
18 period that was indicated in the notice, so what I'm going to
19 do is stay here until eight o'clock and if any of you want to
20 stay or if anyone new comes, we'll hear some statements from
21 them if anyone comes in by then. If not, I'm just going to
22 recess and adjourn tomorrow in Libby at eight o'clock. So I'm
23 going to stay here till eight and reconvene in a short period
24 of time to see if anyone else has anything they want to say, so
25 we'll be in recess until eight.

1 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 7:45 p.m. and
2 subsequently reconvened at 7:55 p.m., and the following
3 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

4 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. We have a person who
5 has come in that would like to make a statement so we'll let
6 her come forward and make it. Anne Glover. Please come
7 forward and state your name for the record and where you're
8 from, please. Right up here to the podium, please.

9 MS. GLOVER: My name is Anne Glover. I'm from Eureka,
10 Montana. I am a housewife, a high school teacher and an active
11 community member. As past president and current member of
12 Tobacco Valley Women and Timber, I fully believe in the fact
13 that timber is a renewable resource and should be treated as
14 such. Logging does not destroy the usefulness or lasting
15 beauty of an area. It markets a resource vitally necessary to
16 Eureka and the nation while making a new crop production
17 possible. The wildlife is not hindered, but helped by the
18 creation of better forage.

19 With Eureka over ninety percent timber industry
20 dependent and it's current unemployment rate at seventeen
21 percent, many of these jobs being timber related, it seems
22 absurd to increase the current sixteen thousand acres already
23 designated wilderness to eighteen thousand eight hundred. I
24 would much prefer a multiple use designation, which would
25 benefit all groups concerned.

1 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. We'll just continue to
2 wait until eight and see if anyone else comes in and wants to
3 make a statement.

4 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 7:57 p.m. and
5 subsequently reconvened at 7:58 p.m., and the following
6 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

7 HEARINGS OFFICER: Back on the record. We have a
8 person who wants to make a statement. State your name and
9 where you're from, please.

10 MR. OSLER: My name is Brad Osler and I've lived here
11 for thirty-three years and my livelihood is here, I'm a logger
12 and I enjoy that area just as much as somebody that wants to
13 walk in there or ride a horse. I got horses, I got motorcycles,
14 but that place up there, nobody takes their motorbikes in there.
15 In the wintertime some people use it on snow cats. There's
16 eight feet of snow; it doesn't hurt a thing.

17 In fact, we hauled in shingles for the roof of the
18 cabin and the cabin has been there for, I don't know how many
19 years; Lloyd would know. And that's because our forefathers
20 took care of that place, and as far as sixty-nine miles of road
21 up there, if he has ridden all over that country he knows that
22 it's already been logged, most of it, and they left that place
23 alone because it was nice and they aren't going to log that up
24 there. And what little bit of timber is left up there they're
25 going to use them old roads, existing roads, to get on. They

1 don't have to build a bunch of system roads to get up in there
2 and I'm sure the Forest Service is in favor of that, too. I
3 guess that's about it.

4 HEARINGS OFFICER: Anyone else? We'll go off the
5 record then for a few minutes.

6 (Discussion held off the record.)

7 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's eight o'clock. Does
8 anyone want to come forward to make a statement at this time?
9 All right. Come on down here and state your name.

10 MR. MARCHBANKS: My name is Bert Marchbanks. I live
11 around town here. I, myself, I would just as soon see the
12 Forest Service with their proposed one. As far as adding any
13 more wilderness, I don't think that people in the United States
14 can afford any more to start with. It costs too much for a
15 guide. Who can afford to raise horses anymore? There's a lot
16 of us that are physically impaired and can't ride a horse or
17 the only way they can get in there is with a motorized vehicle,
18 so myself, I would just as soon see the Forest Service proposal.

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: Anyone else? All right. State
20 your name and where you're from.

21 MR. PARRISH: Jack Parrish, Rexford. I didn't see
22 anything about signs or trail maintenance up there. I had a
23 grandson hiking at Ten Lakes Basin and he slept on the hillside.
24 And he never has found it yet. He has been up there twice from
25 two directions.

1 And then another thing about a little trail
2 maintenance. I don't know who's supposed to do it or what
3 happened to trails, but my son and grandson went in with horses
4 from this side on the Burma Road and they had to jump brush and
5 go around. When he was bringing the garbage out, he scattered
6 it from one end to the other otherwise it would have been two
7 days cutting a trail. They finally put it in a shale slide and
8 covered it up, but they did have a sign, "If you pack it in,
9 pack it out." But there's no trails. That seems to me that
10 used to be the main thing, whether we had wilderness or not,
11 was trails, and we had signs at least. You like to know
12 whether you're headed towards someplace or not. Or else they
13 got lost in the Bluebird Basin. And that would be my biggest
14 thing there and I think that it should be open just like it is.

15 I would like to see some timber cut on this face over
16 here for wildlife management rather than burn it and to hell
17 with it and get all your logs you can; nobody's going to go up
18 above six thousand feet. It's just an, it's just a natural
19 wilderness and scenic area. That's all I have to say.

20 HEARINGS OFFICER: Anyone else? Let me ask you this:
21 Is there anyone who knows of any of your friends or anybody
22 else who planned to come this evening to make a statement but
23 they haven't gotten here yet. Or, do you expect anyone else to
24 turn up that you know of?

25 MR. HOLDER: I know of one guy that's supposed to be

1 here, but he hasn't showed up.

2 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right.

3 MR. MEULI: Is there some reason that the value of the
4 statement on your recorder would be more valuable than a
5 written statement?

6 HEARINGS OFFICER: No, they will both have the same
7 weight. You have until March 1st, 1983, to send it to the
8 Regional Forester's Office in Missoula or the Forest
9 Supervisor's Office in Libby and they will be included as part
10 of the official record and carry the same weight as part of the
11 official record.

12 MR. HOLDER: May we send any written statement along
13 with an oral statement?

14 HEARINGS OFFICER: Yes, when you come up to make your
15 oral statement, if you would care to submit a written statement
16 at that time, or you can submit a written statement later on
17 before March 1st in addition to your oral statement, that would
18 be just fine. All right. I'm going to wait a few more
19 minutes, then, since there's a possibility that a few more
20 might come and if not, we are just going to recess until
21 tomorrow.

22 MR. PARRISH: Does one statement override the other?

23 HEARINGS OFFICER: No, no, we look at them both.

24 MR. PARRISH: Do they have to have so many
25 alternatives?

1 HEARINGS OFFICER: I think if you want to ask some
2 questions about the area yourself, you have to talk to your
3 Forest Service official.

4 MR. PARRISH: I talked to them about signs and they
5 said something about being tied up.

6 (Discussion held off the record.)

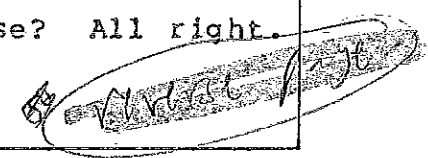
7 HEARINGS OFFICER: If I could have everybody's
8 attention for a minute. We recessed a short time ago with the
9 idea of seeing if anybody else might show up because there was
10 an indication that somebody might want to come in to make a
11 statement. So, it's 8:20 now and has anybody else come now
12 that would like to come forward and make a statement relative
13 to this Ten Lakes Area?

14 MR. FOWLER: Yeah.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Why don't you come up
16 here, state your name, where you're from and make a statement.

17 MR. FOWLER: Yeah, I guess everybody knows me, Harry
18 Fowler, Eureka. I think the plan you had there, that one the
19 Forest Service is going for, is the one that it should be, to
20 my notion anyway. That's the way I look at it. Keep it as a
21 scenic area. We sure as hell don't want it a primitive area.
22 That would just put it in a study area and then it will put it
23 off for another two or three years and then the bugs will get
24 it and whatnot. That's about what I got to say.

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Anyone else? All right.



1 Why don't you come on up here and state your name and where
2 you're from.

3 MR. BURK: I'm Arlie Burk, I'm from Eureka, and I'm
4 totally against the wilderness concept for this north end. I
5 would like to see it remain a scenic area and I would like to
6 see it enlarged. The main thing is no more roads built in that
7 entire north end, permanent roads. I'm for strictly salvage
8 logging off existing road systems. That's the last stronghold
9 for the bears in this north end right there. Thank you.

10 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Is there anyone else?

11 MR. FROST: Yeah, I'm Stan Frost from Eureka and I
12 would like to keep it a scenic area, open for salvage logging
13 with existing roads, snowmobiling, whatever. I'm against it
14 being a wilderness area.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Anyone else? Do you
16 have any other names there of people, Paul, that wanted to testify

17 MR. LEIMBACH: No.

18 HEARINGS OFFICER: Does anybody know of anybody out in
19 the hall or anybody around that wants to say something?

20 MR. FOWLER: There's one or two other guys that was
21 coming here, but they'll probably be ten minutes getting here.

22 HEARINGS OFFICER: Are you sure they're going to come?

23 MR. FOWLER: Yeah, I just talked to them on the phone.

24 HEARINGS OFFICER: We'll give them until 8:30 and if
25 they're not here, we're going to recess.

1 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 8:27 p.m. and
2 subsequently reconvened at 8:30 p.m., and the following
3 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

4 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's 8:30 now. I guess if
5 anybody is going to come, they would be here by now or it's
6 just too late. Has anybody come in that wants to make a
7 statement or anybody that's been here who now wants to make a
8 statement? If not, we're going to recess until tomorrow at two
9 o'clock -- Oh, excuse me, do you want to make a statement?

10 MR. BURK: Yeah.

11 HEARINGS OFFICER: State your name and where you're from.

12 MR. BURK: Jack Burk from Eureka. I would like to see
13 it remain a scenic area with no more roads in that area and
14 just to log from the existing roads and salvage log it.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Is there anyone else?
16 Okay, if not, we're going to recess this hearing until two
17 o'clock tomorrow in the Venture Inn in Libby, Montana and thank
18 you for coming this evening.

19 (Hearing concluded at 8:33 p.m.)

20 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. If I could have
21 everybody's attention, before we left here, I had somebody come
22 in that said they would like to come in and make a statement
23 and I'm going to reopen the hearing again to give them a chance
24 because evidently they've been told, or the understanding is
25 they could come any time between seven and nine, so evidently

1 there's a gentleman here that might make a statement and there
2 might be another one coming in. So, I'm going to reopen the
3 hearing here and allow him to make a statement. Why don't you
4 go ahead. State your name and where you're from.

5 MR. MOEN: My name is Chris Moen, as most of you know,
6 and I am from the Eureka area. As per the Ten Lakes Basin
7 Wilderness Area, I think myself and a lot of the people that I
8 know would like to see that area remain free from development
9 activity. A lot of us use that area in the summertime and in
10 the wintertime for recreational purposes. There's a lot of
11 backpacking and hiking and winter skiing, snowmobiling and so
12 forth that goes on in the area. And looking at a lot of the
13 terrain in the area, there are species of trees, for instance,
14 the alpine larch, which is found in very few places in the
15 world, which could be damaged by excessive development. And
16 just looking at the general topography, it's extremely
17 difficult to log a lot of areas when you're running sixty-five,
18 seventy degree slopes without doing a lot of environmental
19 damage.

20 Generally speaking, I feel that the area should be
21 kept to the original -- the largest proposal for wilderness
22 designation and that multiple use for recreational purposes,
23 for instance, the use of motorized vehicles in some of the
24 areas, should be generally restricted to the areas that are now,
25 in fact, capable of being used on roaded areas or, in other

1 words, that were roads through those areas.

2 And I would like to -- I, speaking for myself, and a
3 lot of other people that I know, would like to see as much of
4 the area as possible maintained in a pristine wilderness state.
5 People say, oh, we have lots of pristine wilderness state in
6 Northwestern Montana, but the fact of the matter is, is that
7 this area is the only one within a good range of this, within
8 range of Lincoln County, for instance, in this end that
9 actually could be maintained without development. The rest of
10 the area is, you know, thousands and thousands of acres of
11 timber developmental land, which should be developed for timber
12 and could be developed for timber and provide an economic base
13 for the area, but why not just maintain one small portion,
14 which it really is? It's not significant at all. Just allow
15 people to have a chance to see what real wilderness undeveloped,
16 untraveled is.

17 There's, if people want to argue, you know, about jobs
18 for the area, well, look at the lumber market right now. We
19 can cut every tree in the Ten Lakes Basin and we're still not
20 going to create one more job because nobody is buying lumber.
21 As long as people aren't buying lumber, why should we go out
22 and cut down the trees in this area? There's plenty of timber.
23 If you want to see some nice timber, you go down and look
24 within one hundred yards of Murphy Lake Ranger Station. Why
25 don't we cut that? You know, that stuff up in there, you have

1 the alpine firs, the alpine larch, the alpine white pine and
2 lodgepole. A lot of that stuff is twenty-five, thirty feet
3 high. It's been there for two hundred years. It's never going
4 to get an inch higher. The wind blows it off right across the
5 top, and there's no point trying to log that stuff. We have
6 thousands of acres of timber, real honest to God timber, that
7 we can cut down without going into that area and trying to log
8 it.

9 And we have thousands of acres of roaded areas that we
10 can use for snowmobiles in the wintertime, we can use for
11 four-wheel drive vehicles in the summertime. Why not just try
12 to maintain one small part of the Northwestern Montana as a
13 true wilderness area to allow people to go back into the
14 wilderness and not have to hear a four-wheel drive vehicle or a
15 skidder or a chain saw or snowmobile right next to them in the
16 middle of the winter? Maintain it for us, maintain it for
17 future generations and maintain it for the wildlife in the area.
18 It might not be a worthwhile project to some, but if you really
19 think about it, it's worthwhile to everybody. Thank you.

20 HEARINGS OFFICER: We'll wait, then, for a few minutes
21 since he seems to think there is somebody else that wants to come.

22 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 8:33 p.m. and
23 subsequently reconvened at 8:34 p.m., and the following
24 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, I have been informed by

1 the gentleman who thought that he had a friend to make a
2 statement that he will not be coming in, and unless somebody
3 else knows of somebody who's going to come, it's 8:45 now and
4 I'm sure that if anybody wanted to be here, they would be here
5 by now, so I'm going to again recess this hearing until two
6 o'clock tomorrow at Venture Inn at Libby and thank you again
7 for coming.

8 EXHIBITS:

9 (Exhibit Nos. 1 and 2 marked for identification.)

10 (Hearing concluded at 8:45 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF MONTANA)
 : ss.
County of Missoula)

I, Melody Jeffries, RPR, Official-Freelance Court
Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula,
Montana, do hereby certify:

That I was duly authorized to and did report the
testimony and evidence in the above-entitled cause;

I further certify that the foregoing pages of this
transcript represent a true and accurate transcription of my
stenotype notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on
this the 29th day of January, 1983.

Melody Jeffries
Melody Jeffries, RPR
Official-Freelance Court Reporter
State of Montana, Residing in
Missoula, Montana.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 31st
day of January, 1983.

Les H. P. [Signature]
NOTARY PUBLIC FOR THE STATE OF MONTANA
Residing in Missoula, Montana,
My Commission expires 1/10/86

EXHIBIT

1

TEN LAKE HEARINGS

FED. NOTICES & NEWSPAPER RELEASES

EXHIBIT 1

Notices

51173

Federal Register

Vol. 47, No. 218

Friday, November 12, 1982

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules and proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Cila National Forest; Grazing Advisory Board; Meeting

The Cila National Forest Grazing Advisory Board will meet at 10:00 a.m., December 17, 1982 in the large conference room, Federal Building, 2510 North Silver Street, Silver City, New Mexico.

The agenda for the meeting is:

1. Election of Officers.
2. Review Program for Range Betterment Funds.
3. Review Allotment Management Plans.

The meeting will be open to the public.

Dated: November 4, 1982.

Kenneth C. Bongolia,

Forest Supervisor.

(FR Doc. 82-5122 Filed 11-10-82; 8:45 AM)

MAILING CODE 9010-11-01

Montana; Kootenai National Forest, Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area Report Hearing Announcement

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Public hearing notice: Public hearings will be held as follows:

January 17, 1983—Eureka, Montana.

Eureka Grade School Auditorium, from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

January 18, 1983—Libby, Montana.

Venture Motor Inn, West Highway 2, from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

January 19, 1983—Kalispell, Montana.

Outlaw Inn, Highway 83, from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

SUMMARY: Public hearings will be held concerning the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. Hearings will be held in three northwestern Montana cities in mid-January 1983.

ADDRESSES: Request for further information should be addressed to: Forest Supervisor, Kootenai National Forest, P.O. Box AS, Libby, MT 59823.

Tom Costas,

Regional Forester.

(FR Doc. 82-5122 Filed 11-10-82; 8:45 AM)

MAILING CODE 9010-11-01

Soil Conservation Service

Carrutuck County Schools, NCSD Measure, North Carolina; Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: Soil Conservation Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of a finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines (40 CFR Part 1500); and the Soil Conservation Service Guidelines (7 CFR Part 650); the Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, gives notice that an environmental impact statement is not being prepared for the Carrutuck County Schools NCSD Measure, Carrutuck County, North Carolina.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Coy A. Garrett, State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Room 544, Federal Building, 310 New Bern Avenue, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611. Telephone (919) 755-4210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The environmental assessment of this federally assisted action indicates that the project will not cause significant local, regional, or national impacts on the environment. As a result of these findings, Mr. Coy A. Garrett, State Conservationist has determined that the preparation and review of an environmental impact statement are not needed for this project.

The measure concerns a plan for reducing flooding and for improving drainage on three school grounds. The planned works of improvement include installing catch basins, pipes and sub-surface drainage tubing. Grading and shaping will be done to improve surface drainage and to eliminate ponding. All disturbed areas will be seeded with adapted permanent vegetation.

The Notice of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been forwarded to the Environmental Protection Agency and to various Federal, State, and local agencies and interested parties. A limited number of copies of the FONSI are available to fill single copy requests at the above address. Basic data developed during the

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

Committee on Governmental Processes; Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Committee on Governmental Processes of the Administrative Conference of the United States, to be held at 8:10 a.m. on Wednesday, November 17, 1982, at the Office of the General Counsel, Department of the Treasury, 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Room 5C Washington, D.C.

The Committee will meet to discuss the Conference's projects on the use of Freedom of Information Act as a recovery tool, and on discipline of lawyers practicing before federal agencies.

Attendance is open to the interested public but limited to the space available. Persons wishing to attend

if possible, notify the Office of the Chairman of the Administrative Conference prior to the meeting. The

Chairman, if she deems it appropriate, may permit members of the public to present oral statements at the meeting. A member of the public may submit a written statement with the Chairman before, during, or after the

meeting. For further information concerning the meeting contact David M. Pritzker, Director of the Chairman, Administrative Conference of the United States, 2120 L Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20037. (Telephone 202-254-7085.) Resumes of the meeting will be available upon request.

Dated: November 10, 1982.

David K. Berry,

General Counsel.

(22-51203 Filed 11-10-82; 8:45 AM)

CODE 5110-01-01

EXH. B. 1

7-12

Date: November 12, 1982
Contract: Sandy Matheny
ext. 314

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

According to Bill Morden, Kootenai National Forest Supervisor, the Kootenai National Forest Draft Environmental Impact Statement was released by Regional Forester Tom Coston on Friday, November 12.

There are three major documents, plus two summaries, and a Reviewer's Aid associated with the Kootenai Forest Plan: 1) The Draft Environmental Impact Statement describes the proposed action and other alternatives for managing the Kootenai National Forest. 2) The Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area Report and Proposal displays all the alternatives considered for the 35,900 acre Ten Lakes Area. 3) The Proposed Kootenai National Forest Plan describes how the proposed action would be implemented. Its format is very detailed and is designed for the day-to-day Forest management activities. The two summaries highlight the issues in the Draft Statement and the Ten Lakes document. The summaries and the Reviewer's Aid are timesaving tools toward gaining a more rapid understanding of the proposed action.

"Many people have worked with us for an extended time, first through the Unit plans and now with this Forest planning effort," Morden noted, "and we appreciate their continuing interest."

* * * MORE * * *

There will be several informal opportunities scheduled for interested groups and individuals to visit about the Plan with the Kootenai Forest Staff, according to Morden. The dates for the meetings are to be scheduled at a later time. "In addition to the informal meetings there will be three formal hearings addressing the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area alternatives," he said. They are scheduled from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. on the following dates: January 17, Eureka, Montana, Eureka Grade School Auditorium; January 18, Libby, Montana, Venture Motor Inn, West Highway 2; and January 19, Kalispell, Montana, Outlaw Inn, Highway 93. "People can choose to give their responses to the Ten Lakes alternatives at any of the hearings, or they can provide them concurrently with their responses to the other documents," Morden said.

The Forest Plan was mandated by Congress when the National Forest Management Act was passed in 1976. This Plan will chart the course for the Kootenai National Forest for the next 10 years. "However, the Plan will be in a somewhat continuous state of update," said Morden, "and the monitoring and evaluation steps that go along with implementing the alternative after it is finalized provide a system of checks and balances . . . a way to respond to the changing needs of the Forest."

"Issues and concerns have always changed over time," he noted. The issues dealt with in this effort are timber, roads, minerals concerns, fire, wilderness, recreation, visual concerns, wildlife, local economics, our pine beetle problems, and landownership patterns. The next updates will conceivably surface some different issues," Morden said.

The public comment period for the Kootenai Forest Plan and the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area Draft Statement closes March 1, 1983. At that time the comments will be analyzed and incorporated into a Final Statement. For further information or copies of the document, contact Paul Leimbach, Kootenai National Forest, P.O. Box 45, Libby, Montana 59923 or call 406-293-6211.

DISTRIBUTION OF TERN LAKE
HEARING NOTICES

11/12/92

PIO NEWS RELEASES ONLY

NEWS OUTLETS

Standard List

Regional Forester (2)
District Rangers

Western News
Kootenai Valley Eagle
Daily Inter Lake
Kalispell Weekly News
Sanders County Ledger
Tobacco Valley News
The Missoulian
Richard Eggert (correspondent
to the Missoulian)
Bonners Ferry Herald
Spokane Daily Chronicle
Spokesman Review

KLCB
KOFI
KJJR
KCFW TV
KPAX TV

Original to PIO
Yellow file copy(s)
Pink reading file copy

Total Copies - 27

Oil and Gas Exploration

Montana Oil Journal

Environmental Issues

Flathead Environmental Report
Montana Magazine
Eastern Montana College
Defenders of Wildlife

Miscellaneous Groups

Fishing and Hunting News
Forest Industries
The Barker
Wilderness Institute
Montana Logging Association
Don Schweningsen (correspondent
to The Missoulian)

Draft forest plan due for release

By BOB PHILLIPS

The Kootenai National Forest will be releasing its draft forest plan early next week, according to forest Supervisor Bill Morden.

The National Forest Management Act of 1976 requires the national forests to draw up plans on their future course of management. The Kootenai Forest has been working on the draft plan since 1979, Morden said. The public must have at least 30 days in which to comment on the draft, and Congress must be in session for the length of that period.

Included in the plan are three

main documents: a draft environmental impact statement concerning future management of the forest and its resources, a draft forest plan document and a draft EIS on the Ten Lakes area northeast of Eureka, which has been studied for wilderness designation under Senate bill 385, the Montana Wilderness Study Act.

Morden said that the forest has recommended non-wilderness designation for the 35,000 acre roadless area, with 10,000 acres to remain in a roadless condition for recreation. Other issues that will be addressed in the draft plan include:

Forest plan

(Continued from Page 1)

drilling ever occur? —How should land ownership be adjusted in areas of checkerboard ownership?

—Wildlife. How should threatened and endangered species be protected, and how many big game animals should the forest seek to sustain? Which areas deserve special protection because of their vital importance to certain species, such as elk and grizzly bears?

—Roadless recreation. Aside from designated wilderness areas, how much of the forest should remain in an unroaded condition in order to provide primitive recreational opportunities for backpackers, hikers and fishermen?

Landscaping pine and the Mountain Pine Beetle. How many a balance be obtained between the need to suppress as much of the diseased trees as possible and the need to have roads for certain uses? Planning chief, officer J. Frank Shadle said recently concerning the lodgepole, "If we went into an absolute developmental mode, the most we could salvage would be the forest. The rest would die, creating an ash not yet. Secretary used for wood. Roadbuilding however, is also a significant impact on wildlife. Shadle said: "...

—Fire management. When and where should fire suppression be kept in check? Fire is a natural part of the forest ecology, and the total suppression of it in the past has led to an unnatural buildup of fuel, posing the danger of big, more disastrous fires in the future. Man-caused fires are often suppressed, while

—How much timber should be cut from the forest? The plan calls for a steady increase over the next 50 years, from an annual allowable cut of 248 million board feet now to 380 million board feet once all the projected roads are completed on the forest.

—How many miles of roads should be built? Roadbuilding on the forest "will increase dramatically" in coming years, according to Morden. The forest now has about 600 miles of roads, and that figure is expected to double over the next 50 years. While timber managers argue that they need to "access" new areas to efficiently manage and harvest

timber on the forest, many individuals believe that too many roads leave wildlife without adequate seclusion, as well as mar the aesthetic beauty of the forest.

—Road closures. How many are the public willing to accept? With an increasing number of roads, a large percentage will have to be closed after timber sales, or else quality heading on the forest may come to an end.

—Oil and natural gas leasing. How much of the forest should be open to leasing and what kinds of restrictions should be placed on future drilling activities, should

(Continued on Page 2)

particular areas. One alternative has been selected by forest planners as preferred.

After the draft plan is reviewed and public comment gathered, a final plan will be completed. Then progress on adhering to the plan will be assessed every five years, according to Supervisor Morden.

Small public workshops will be held at the Supervisor's Office, Morden said, as well as other informal sessions to help the public understand the plan. If all goes well, the final plan should be complete about one year from this time, Morden said.

actually serve to enhance big game habitat under the right conditions.

According to Shadle, there will not be a "great change" in management practices under the plan. He added, "For people who want to change in one way or another, that's probably not real good news."

The draft EIS for the forest will include eight alternatives for future forest use, running the gamut from near-total preservation of existing roadless areas on the forest to near-total "timber optimization" through opening up most of the forest with roads. The eight alternatives are color-coded on several maps for clearer identification of

EXHIBIT 1

The Western News

11-11-82

Missoulian 11-13-82

—Missoulian, Saturday, November 13, 1982

Kootenai forest plan: More timber, wildlife—and roads

By DON SCHWENKES
of the Missoulian

LIBBY — The proposed 50-year forest management plan for the Kootenai National Forest and a wilderness study of the Kootenai's Ten Lakes Scenic Area were released Friday by Northern Regional Forester Tom Cantor.

The documents recommend against creation of a 35,000-acre wilderness encompassing the Ten Lakes Scenic Area on the northern end of the Whitefish Range east of Eureka.

Instead, the forest proposes to add about 2,000 acres to the existing 18,000-acre scenic area, retaining its scenic designation.

The draft forest plan charts a management course that would increase timber and wildlife production over the next 50 years, according to Sandy Matheson, forest information officer.

It also deals with future road construction, recreation, minerals potential, fire management, the local economy and other issues relating to the 1.6-million-acre forest.

Timber production and reforestation are projected to increase.

Annual timber sales offered by the forest would increase from a projected 268 million board feet a decade from now to a high of 388 million board feet per year at the end of the 50-year planning period.

Under the present management direction, the forest would expect to sell nearly the same amount—267 million board feet 10 years from now but substantially less (348 million board feet) in 50 years.

Road construction on the forest will also increase dramatically.

The forest now has some 4,800 miles of primary or "system" roads that are generally open to public travel, excepting for scattered seasonal closures.

In 50 years, the forest expects to have 12,000 miles of

system roads, 2½ times the number of miles maintained today.

Under the old management direction, the forest is headed toward an 11,100-mile road system 50 years from now.

Seasonal road closures to protect wildlife and other values will also increase if the draft plan is adopted. The plan envisions that road restrictions would affect some 4,300 miles of roads by the end of the 50-year planning period.

The Kootenai plan also calls for special management of some 350,000 acres to enhance wildlife.

For example, the plan estimates there will be sufficient summer elk range to support some 6,700 elk at the end of the planning period. Under the present approach, there would be summer range for 4,800 elk.

The plan includes management measures to enhance 80 percent of the forest's 947,000 acres of potential grizzly bear habitat. The habitat is expected to be sufficient to support a minimum viable population of 30 to 35 grizzly bears.

Documents released Friday include the draft forest plan, an environmental impact statement that compares the proposed plan to other alternatives considered and the report and recommendations on the Ten Lakes Scenic Area. Summaries of the three documents and a review and aid are also available.

For more information or for copies of the report, contact Paul Leimbach at the Kootenai National Forest headquarters, Box A3, Libby 59723 (phone 288-6211).

Public comments on the forest plan will be accepted until March 1.

The proposed Ten Lakes wilderness was one of eight radicon areas mandated for special consideration by a wilderness study bill sponsored by the late Sen. Lee Metcalf and passed by Congress in 1978.

Hearings on the Ten Lakes Scenic Area are required by law. They will be held Jan. 17 at the Eureka Elementary School, Jan. 18 in Libby at the Vandave Inn and Jan. 19 in Kaupell at the Outlaw Inn. Hearings will be from 2 to 5 and from 7 to 9 p.m.

No wilderness for Ten Lakes scenic area

EUREKA — The Ten Lakes Scenic Area east of Eureka will not become a wilderness, northern region forester Tom Coston announced Friday.

The decision to leave the 16,000-acre region in its current status as a "scenic area" was announced in conjunction with the release of the Kootenai National Forest's 50-year forest management plan.

Creation of a 35,900-acre wilderness at the northern end of the Whitefish Range surrounding the Ten Lakes Scenic Area was one of nine proposals included in a wilderness study bill sponsored by the late Sen. Lee Metcalf, D-Mont., in 1976. Instead, the forest proposes to add 2,000 acres to the present scenic area.

The area is accessible by the Graves Creek Road out of Fortine, but many of the lakes can be reached only by trail.

Hearings on the decision are required by law. They are tentatively scheduled for Jan. 17 in Eureka, Jan. 18 in Libby and Jan. 19 in Kalispell.

The draft forest plan provides managers of the 1.8 million-acre forest with a blueprint for development of resources over the next 50 years. It deals with timber and wildlife production, road construction, fire management and recreational and mineral resources, as well as other considerations.

Projections call for an increase in timber harvest from 248 million board feet in 1992 to 388 million board feet in 2032. Under the management plan currently in effect, the harvest would be 247 million board feet in a decade but only 340 million in 50 years.

The forest also expects to add a few more roads in the next 50 years — 7,200 miles of them, to be exact. There are now 4,800 miles of primary road in the forest. Seasonal closures for protection of wildlife is also expected to increase.

Among other measures to enhance wildlife is a proposal for special management of elk and grizzly habitat. The plan estimates there will be enough summer range to support 6,700 elk, and enough grizzly habitat to support at least 30 bears.

Public comments on the forest plan will be accepted until March 1, 1983. Copies of the forest plan and the Ten Lakes recommendation can be obtained by contacting Paul Leimbach at Kootenai National Forest headquarters, Box AS, Libby 59923, or by calling 293-6211.

11-18-82

TOBACCO VALLEY NEWS

Ten Lakes to be discussed

The Kootenai National Forest Draft Environmental Impact Statement was released by Regional Forester Tom Coston Friday.

Three major documents, two summaries, and a reviewer's Aid are associated with the Kootenai Forest Plan. The Draft Environmental

Impact Statement describes the proposed action and other alternatives for managing the Kootenai National Forest.

The Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area Report and Proposal displays all the alternatives considered for the 35,900 acre Ten Lakes Area.

The proposed Kootenai National Forest Plan describes how the proposed action would be implemented. Its format is reportedly very detailed and is designed for the day-to-day Forest management activities.

The two summaries highlight the issues in the Draft Statement and the Ten Lakes document. The summaries and the Reviewers aid are described as timesaving tools toward gaining a more rapid understanding of the proposed action.

Three formal meetings on the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area alternatives have been scheduled for January 17 at the Eureka Grade School Auditorium, January 18 at the Venture Inn in Libby, and January 19 at the Outlaw Inn in Kalispell. Meeting times will be 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. There will also be several informal opportunities scheduled for interested groups and individuals to visit about the Plan with the Kootenai Forest Staff, according to Bill Morden, Kootenai National Forest Supervisor.

The Forest Plan was mandated by Congress when the National Forest Management Act was passed in 1976. This plan will chart the course for the next ten years. "However, the Plan will be in a somewhat continuous state of update," Morden said. "And the monitoring and evaluation steps that go along with implementing the alternative after it is finalized provide a system of checks and balances...a way to respond to the changing needs of the forest."

The public periods for the Kootenai Forest Plan and the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area Draft Statement will close March 1, 1983. At that time the comments will be analyzed and incorporated into a Final Statement. For further information or copies of the document, contact Paul Leimbach, Kootenai National Forest, P.O. Box AS, Libby 59923 or call 293-6211.

EX-111-1

More timber, wildlife seen in forest plan

11-18-82

Sanford County Judge

TROUT CREEK—Increased timber production, more road building accompanied by more road closures, improved elk range and an expanded elk population are among the goals outlined in the Kootenai National Forest Draft Environmental Impact Statement released by Regional Forester Tom Costen Friday, according to Bill Morden, Kootenai National Forest Supervisor.

Cabinet District Ranger Ron Humphrey said the plan envisions increasing the timber harvest on his

board foot annually to 25 million by 1988-89, providing funds are provided for the necessary roads needed to harvest the increased timber sales.

A 40 per cent increase in the forest's elk herd population is seen over the next 50 years, as habitat is improved as a result of timber harvests and the reproduction of browse.

One of the major concerns of the increased logging is the visual effect to the landscape. Under the new rules, the maximum clear-cut will be

(Please turn to page 12)

EXHIBIT 1

timber, wildlife

(Continued from page 1)

60 acres and most will be 10 to 20 acres, Humphrey said.

"We've got some 300-acre clear cuts now that resulted when we were harvesting spruce beetle attacked timber."

Morden said there will be several informal opportunities scheduled for interested groups and individuals to visit about the plan with Kootenai Forest officials. The dates for the meetings are to be scheduled later... "In addition to the informal meetings, there will be three formal hearings addressing the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area alternatives," Morden said. They are scheduled from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Jan. 17 at Eureka, Jan. 18 Libby and Jan. 19 Kalispell.

The Forest Plan was mandated by Congress when the National Forest Management Act was passed in 1976. This plan will chart the course for the Kootenai National Forest for the next 15 years. "However, the plan will be in a somewhat continuous state of update," said Morden, "and the monitoring and evaluation steps that go along with implementing the alternative after it is finalized provide a system of checks and balances... a way to respond to the changing needs of the forest."

"The issues dealt with in this effort are timber, roads, mineral concerns, fire, wilderness, recreation, visual concerns, wildlife, local economics, our pine beetle problems and land ownership patterns. The next updates will conceivably surface some different issues," he said.

The public comment period for the Kootenai Forest Plan and the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area Draft Statement closes March 1, 1983. At that time the comments will be analyzed and incorporated into a final statement.

For the Kootenai Forest as a whole, timber sales are expected to increase 34 per cent from \$14 million at present to \$20 million in 10 years.

Road mileage over the forest is expected to almost triple—from 4,500 miles now to 12,000 in 50 years.

Elk game winter range is to increase to 214,000 and summer range to 330,000. Estimated elk population in 50 years will be 6,700.

The management of grizzly habitat acres is expected to increase to provide for the existing minimum

Public hearings set on Ten Lakes wilderness status

MISSOULA 12/15/72

By BOB PHILLIPS
Correspondent

LIBBY — Officials are starting to come in on the latest National Forest recommendation of non-wilderness status for the Ten Lakes Scenic Area northwest of Durbin, according to Bill Morden, Kootenai Forest supervisor.

Morden has planned several public meetings on the issue.

The 15,800-acre roadless area was designated for possible inclusion in the federal wilderness system under Senate Bill 981, the Montana Wilderness Study Act of 1977. Also among the nine areas listed for study under the act was the Mount Henry area in the Yael which has previously also been recommended for non-wilderness.

Final act on whether the areas will be added to the wilderness system is up to Congress.

When the Kootenai Forest recently released its draft wilderness plan, it included a report on the Ten Lakes area. The report offered an alternative ranging from preservation of the entire area as wilderness to preservation of only the original 6,500-acre core scenic area as wilderness.

The forest addressed action to maintain 18,600 roadless acres while managing the rest for timber. Public comment is being sought on the plan.

The proposed action would not grant wilderness status to the 11,000 acres, which would remain open for logging and other forms of Forest Service management. It is not allowed as designated wilderness, such as prescribed burns.

Kootenai Forest officials are recommending roads

Morden said forest officials believe that in the best alternative, he said the non-wilderness designation would allow "greater latitude for management purposes" in the area while still providing the recreational uses a wilderness experience.

Morden said that Ten Lakes is a popular snowmobileing area — a factor in the decision to recommend the area for non-wilderness.

Morden said the goal of the proposed action was to provide for the "total net public benefit."

Although relatively easy to compare potential economic values of timber and other resources in the area, Morden said "it's kind of a judgmental thing when you talk about non-monetary values." He added, "Even internally, we (at forest headquarters) have different ideas on the values."

Morden said that the proposed non-wilderness designation best addresses the "question of overall need," and added that "there will be many who will disagree with us."

Morden said, "Now the ball is in the other person's court."

Proponents of designating the Ten Lakes Area as wilderness point to it as one part of the rapidly diminishing resource, and frequently accuse the Forest Service of anti-wilderness bias.

Don Journeay, local representative of the Montana

get the Ten Lakes area designated as wilderness. "We feel 15,000 acres was not too much to expect," he said.

Kreck said he feels the Forest Service has often been deceptive in its dealings with wilderness groups, adding "it's more obvious than ever that the Forest Service can't be trusted to administer any wild area."

Kreck said "We've had to fight for everything that has been set aside." He accused the Forest Service of going after a "stupor amount of timber at a high cost of road-building."

Kreck called what has happened to the Cabinet wilderness "ridiculous," because he said the wilderness has been cut down to a "survivor" in some places.

"The Forest Service is probably the greatest foe of wilderness that there is right now," Kreck said.

Four public hearings on the Ten Lakes proposal will be held in January and February.

The first is an open house Jan. 18 from 1 to 7 p.m. in the forest supervisor's office on Highway 2 in Libby. Currently a hearing specifically on the Ten Lakes plan will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. at the Venture Motor Inn in Libby.

An open house is also scheduled from 1 to 7 p.m. Jan. 28 at the Trout Creek Ranger Station.

On Jan. 28, an informational meeting will start at 7 p.m. at the Eureka Senior Citizens Center.

Another open house is set for Feb. 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Troy Ranger Station west of Troy on Highway 2.

Deadlines for comments on the Ten Lakes proposal and the draft forest plan is March 1.

Ten Lakes wilderness hearings this month

Public hearings on the U.S. Forest Service's decision not to recommend wilderness status for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area will be in Eureka, Libby and Kalispell this month.

Hearings will be Jan. 17 in the Roosevelt Building of Eureka elementary school, Jan. 18 at the Venture Motor Inn in Libby and Jan. 19 at The Outlaw Inn in Kalispell. They are scheduled for 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. each day.

The Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area encompasses an area centered around the present 16,000-acre Ten Lakes Scenic Area, located northwest of Eureka at the

north end of the Whitefish Range. Creation of a 35,900-acre wilderness was one of nine proposals included in a 1976 wilderness study bill sponsored by the late Sen. Lee Metcalf, D-Mont.

The area is accessible by the Graves Creek Road out of Fortine, but the lakes which give the region its name can be reached only by trail.

Regional forester Tom Coston recommended in November against the proposed wilderness. The Forest Service recommendation does call for expansion of the scenic area to about 18,000 acres. Kootenai Na-

tional Forest supervisor Bill Morden said.

This month's hearings are part of the public comment period for the Ten Lakes proposal. Those unable to attend the hearings may provide written statements.

The public comment period ends March 1. At that time, comments will be analyzed and incorporated into a final report to Congress, which has the final authority to designate areas for inclusion in the national wilderness system.

Comments on the Ten Lakes proposal can also be included with general comments about the Kootenai Forest Plan, a study of the

forest's needs and suggested direction for the next 50 years. Major facets of the plan include an increase in timber harvest over current management projections, major expansion of the road system and additional measures to enhance wildlife habitat.

The forest plan was released at the same time as the Ten Lakes recommendation.

Several informal open houses are planned by forest staff to explain the plan to the public and to accept comments. Details, as well as the plan itself, may be obtained from forest headquarters in Libby.

Missoulian

1-12-83

-Missoulian, Wednesday, January 12, 1983

Management plan for Ten Lakes to be discussed at meetings

LIBBY — The Kootenai National Forest's management proposal for the Ten Lakes wilderness study area northeast of Eureka will be the subject of three public hearings next week.

Forest managers have recommended against any wilderness designation within the existing Ten Lakes Scenic Area or surrounding roadless lands. Instead, about half the roadless lands would be opened for logging. The other half would become an enlarged scenic area that would remain roadless but be open to motorized travel, notably snowmobiling.

Much of the roadless area already comprises fingers of undeveloped land on high ridges surrounded on three sides by valley bottoms that have been roaded and logged.

The proposal would expand the 16,600-acre Ten Lakes Scenic Area to 18,000 acres. The balance of the 25,500-acre roadless area would be opened to development.

The hearings will be held Monday in the Eureka Grade School; Tuesday in Libby at the Venture Motor Inn; and Wednesday in Kalispell at the Outlaw Inn.

The hearings will be from 8 to 9 and from 7 to 9 p.m.

Public comment period on the Ten Lakes proposal ends March 1. After that date, public comments will be studied and incorporated into a final report to Congress.

Missoulian, Wednesday, January 12, 1983-

Public meetings scheduled on Kootenai forest plan

LIBBY — The Kootenai National Forest's proposed forest plan will be discussed at public meetings scheduled around the forest later this month, according to forest Supervisor Bill Morden.

The first open house is scheduled Tuesday from 1 to 7 p.m. in the forest headquarters in Libby. It is timed to coincide with a public hearing for the forest's Ten Lakes wilderness study area, scheduled the same date in the nearby Venture Motor Inn.

The second meeting will be Jan. 24 from 1 to 7 p.m. at the Trout Creek Ranger Station on Montana 200. Information on the district's five-year timber plan will also be available for review.

The third is scheduled Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Senior Citizen Center in Eureka. The fourth will be Feb. 1 from 1 to 7 p.m. at the Troy Ranger Station west of Troy on U.S.

1-13-83

TOBACCO VALLEY NEWS

Hearings set on Ten Lakes

Public hearings on the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area have been scheduled for 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. on Monday, January 17 in Eureka at the Eureka Grade School's second floor auditorium of the Roosevelt Building.

Public hearings provide the public an opportunity to give testimony concerning the Forest Service's recommendation for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. The Forest Service recommendation

for the study area is nonwilderness with an expansion of the 16,000-acre Ten Lakes Scenic Area to about 18,800 acres.

The public may give oral statements at the hearing, give a written statement to be entered in the hearing record, or give their views on the recommendation as part of their comments on the Kootenai Forest Plan, released to the public in November.

The public comment period for the

Ten Lakes proposal ends March 1, 1983. At that time, comments will be analyzed and incorporated into a final report to Congress.

Several informal open houses will also be held where Forest Service Staff will be on hand to provide information about the Kootenai Forest Plan, as well as accept comments from the public. For more information, contact Paul Leimbach or Sandy Matheny at the Supervisor's Office, 406-293-6211.

Tobacco Valley News 1-13-83

Tobacco Valley News, January 13, 1983

Hearings set on Ten Lakes

Public hearings on the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area have been scheduled for 2:5 p.m. and 7:0 p.m. on Monday, January 17 in Eureka at the Eureka Grade School's second floor auditorium of the Roosevelt Building.

Public hearings provide the public an opportunity to give testimony concerning the Forest Service's recommendation for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. The Forest Service recommendation

for the study area is nonwilderness with an expansion of the 16,000-acre Ten Lakes Scenic Area to about 18,900 acres.

The public may give oral statements at the hearing, give a written statement to be entered in the hearing record, or give their views on the recommendation as part of their comments on the Kootenai Forest Plan, released to the public in November.

The public comment period for the

Ten Lakes proposal ends March 1, 1983. At that time, comments will be analyzed and incorporated into a final report to Congress.

Several informal open houses will also be held where Forest Service Staff will be on hand to provide information about the Kootenai Forest Plan, as well as accept comments from the public. For more information, contact Paul Leimbach or Sandy Matheny at the Supervisor's Office, 400-293-6211.

The Western News
1-13-83

The Western News, Libby, Mont., Thurs., Jan. 12, 1983

Meetings slated for forest plan

The Kootenai National Forest has scheduled several information-sharing meetings and open houses to provide an opportunity for people to discuss the Kootenai's draft environmental impact statement, draft forest plan and the Ten Lakes Montana wilderness study area proposal, which recommends non-wilderness status for the area.

The plan has been out for only about a month

now, and according to Bill Morden, Kootenai Forest supervisor, responses are already starting to come in. "But we also have had several requests to go over the plan with people," he said, "and we have scheduled several sessions around the forest."

Following is the schedule of meetings planned thus far:

In the Eureka area: A forest plan informational meeting is scheduled for Jan. 25 at

the Senior Citizen's Center in Eureka. The meeting will start promptly at 7 p.m.

In the Libby area: An open house for the forest plan is scheduled for Jan. 18 from 1 to 7 p.m. in the forest supervisor's office on Highway 2 in Libby.

People can come to the open house at any time during those hours. It is scheduled to run concurrently with the hearing scheduled for the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area to be held in the Ven-

ture Motor Inn in Libby from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. that same day.

In the Troy area: An open house is scheduled for Feb. 1 from 1 to 7 p.m. It will be held at the Troy Ranger Station, located just west of Troy on Highway 2.

In the Trout Creek-Noxon area: An open house is scheduled for Jan. 24 from 1 to 7 p.m. at the Trout Creek Ranger Station on Highway 20. People can attend the open house at any time

during those hours. According to Ron Humphrey, Cabinet District Ranger, there will also be an opportunity to review the Cabinet District's five-year timber sale plan at that time.

Individuals or organizations who wish to set up additional forest plan informational sessions can contact any district ranger, or Sandy Matheny in the forest supervisor's office in Libby, 406-293-6211.

EXHIBIT 1

EXHIBIT 2

LETTERS ON TEN LAKE
STUDY AREA

RECEIVED AS of 1/14/83

SOME POSSIBLE AREAS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR RESPONSE

1. Issue resolution.

Good

2. Effects and impacts from the Environmental Consequences section.

EFFECTS ARE OUTLINED

3. Additional ideas or approaches to solutions. I HAVE NO NEW IDEAS, I GENERALLY SUPPORT YOUR PROPOSED ACTION. HOWEVER, I THINK THE PROPOSED PLAN SHOULD BE ALTERED SOMEWHAT BEFORE THE FINAL ONE IS MADE. FIRST, I THINK ALL POSSIBLE CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO HELP THE GRIZZLY. I FEEL YOU NEED MORE HABITAT FOR GRIZZLIES IN YOUR PLAN. SECOND, ALTHOUGH YOU PLAN TO CLOSE MANY ROADS AFTER USE THIS POLICY SHOULD BE EXPANDED.

4. Factual (technical) errors.

NONE NOTED.

5. Readability and understandability.

VERY READABLE. THE MAPS ARE VERY GOOD.

6. Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area.

I DISAGREE WITH YOUR PROPOSAL. I THINK TEN LAKES SHOULD RECEIVE THE PROTECTION OUTLINED IN ALT. B - WHERE MOST OF THE STUDY AREA IS DEDICATED TO ROADLESS RECREATION NET. YOUR PLAN ALLOWS TIMBER HARVEST / ROAD CONSTRUCTION TOO CLOSE TO THE "HEART" OF THIS AREA. (I THINK ALT. B SHOULD BE CHANGED FROM RECOMMENDING THERE AREA BE WILDERNESS TO A ROADLESS / IT MAY IF THAT MAKES SENSE). MY MAIN POINT IS, YOUR PLAN

7. Other.

YOUR PLANNED LAND EXCHANGES DEFINITELY MEET WITH MY APPROVAL.

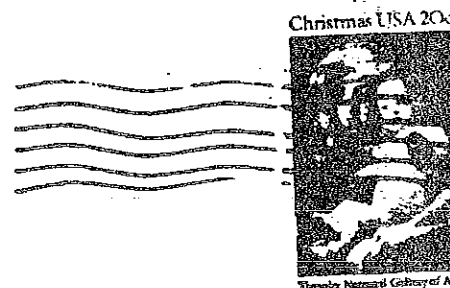
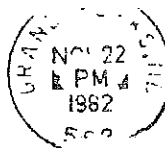
DOES NOT SAFEGUARD THE AREA TO THE EXTENT I WOULD LIKE IT.

Please remember to provide your name and address on the other side, if you wish to receive the final documents. THANK YOU for your time!

NOV 11 1981
R-X
DHS
ZES
L

Return address

Joseph & Lauren Schott
1417-D Beech Drive
Grand Forks AFB, ND 58205



☐ is this an address change?

Kootenai National Forest
Supervisor's Office
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

NAME: JOSEPH C. SCHOTT

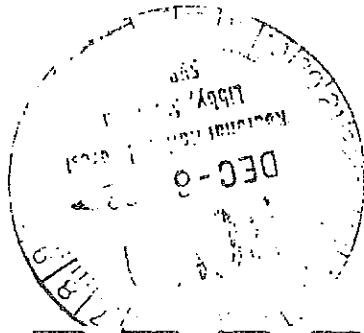
ADDRESS: 1417 D BEECH DR. GRAND FORKS AFB, ND 58205

ORGANIZATION OR
AFFILIATION, IF ANY: NONE

SOME POSSIBLE AREAS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR RESPONSE

1. Issue resolution. Under item 4 (Fire mgt.) of Issues Identified in Planning Process in the "Reviewer's Aid" the next to last sentence says that "... unplanned fires could be allowed to burn..." This is a poorly worded statement because it is incomplete in stating why and how. What is the reason for letting these fires burn uncontrolled over 336,000 acres? What are the management objectives of the land?
2. Effects and impacts from the Environmental Consequences section. There is a conflict between identified prescriptions/allocations for resource mgt. along the Kootenai Reservoir. Almost all of this area is designated as wildlife or view, which Fire Mgt. Area classification #2, however, this area has been delineated as FMA 5. Similar resource/FMA conflicts exist throughout the forest.
3. Additional ideas or approaches to solutions. In regards to the comment in #1 → explain that fires will be managed within a rigid set of prescriptions to enhance the management of the resources affected. Make reference to the Kootenai Fire Mgt. Action Plan for more detail.
4. Factual (technical) errors. Page 19, item C6, of the DEIS states that "under FMA 2... all fires are actively suppressed." This seems to be in direct conflict with statements throughout the DEIS which state that in "FMA 2... planned ignitions may be used to achieve land management objectives and unplanned ignitions will receive appropriate suppression action." which is correct and what is "appropriate suppression action"?
5. Readability and understandability. Although fire protection and fire management areas are discussed extensively throughout the DEIS, Forest Plan, and Reviewer's Guide; page II-37 of the DEIS and there is no explanation of FMA 1. There should at least be a reference to the Fire Mgt. Action Plan. Protection descriptions under resource allocation prescriptions are redundant throughout both the DEIS and Forest Plan.
6. Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. I feel that Alternative D is a much better approach to the management of the resources in this area and that snowmobiles, along with other motorized vehicles, not be allowed in the area at any time of the year.
7. Other. The "Reviewer's Aid" is an excellent idea and gives a good overview of the DEIS, and proposed actions on the forest.

Please remember to provide your name and address on the other side, if you wish to receive the final documents. THANK YOU for your time!



Return address

Bruce S. Keene

P.O. Box 666

Eureka, MT 59917

☐ is this an address change?

place
stamp
here

Kootenai National Forest
Supervisor's Office
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

NAME: Bruce Keene, Forester

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 666, Eureka, MT 59917

ORGANIZATION OR
AFFILIATION, IF ANY: SAF, AFA

SOME POSSIBLE AREAS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR RESPONSE

1. Issue resolution.
2. Effects and impacts from the Environmental Consequences section.
3. Additional ideas or approaches to solutions.
4. Factual (technical) errors.
5. Readability and understandability.

6. Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area.

I agree with the decision as stated

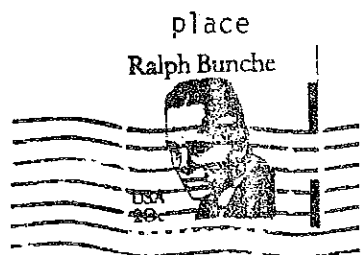
7. Other.

Please remember to provide your name and address on the other side, if you wish to receive the final documents. THANK YOU for your time!

Return address

P.O. Box 1092
Idabel, OK
74745

☐ is this an address change?



Kootenai National Forest
Supervisor's Office
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

NAME: Mitch TALIAFERRO

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 1092 Idabel, OK 74745

ORGANIZATION OR
AFFILIATION, IF ANY: _____

Forest Plan
Response File 6

DAL
12/13/8

FOREST PLAN & DELS RESPONSE

GLENN MUELLER STOPPED IN THIS MORNING TO STATE THAT HE IS IN BASIC AGREEMENT WITH THE PROPOSED FOREST PLAN AND THE ALLOCATIONS MADE.

HE STATED THAT HE THOUGHT THAT THE EMPLOYMENT FIGURES SHOWN IN THE DELS WERE OPTIMISTIC IN THE FIRST DECADE BECAUSE OF THE INCREASING AUTOMATION THAT IS OCCURRING IN THE WOOD PRODUCTS MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

[HE ALSO STATED THAT A WILDERNESS DECISION IN THE TEN LAKES CORE AREA IS A WORKABLE COMPROMISE, IF NEEDED.

206/525-3591

Dec. 23, 1982

Mr. William E. Morden, Supervisor
P.O. Box AS
Kootenai National Forest
Libby, MT 59923

Dear Mr. Morden:

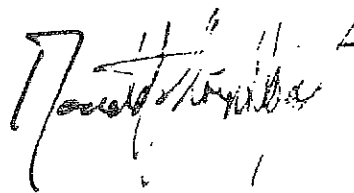
We have read your "Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area" and "Kootenai National Forest Plan" documents very carefully.

The Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail goes through that area from the junction of the Lewis Creek and Grave Creek roads, directly west up the ridge 3.5 miles to Mount Wam, along the Highline Trail No. 339, and along Trail No. 88 down St. Clair Creek.

Because the PNWT is one of America's major national recreation resources we urge you to consider its need for wilderness management of the Ten Lakes area in your planning process.

In fact, we cannot find even a single mention of the ~~nationally-known~~ Pacific Northwest Trail in any of your documents. Please remedy this serious oversight.

Merry Christmas,



Ronald G. Strickland, Ph.D.
Director

DEC 27 1982

RECEIVED
KOOTENAI

DEC 27 1982

RECEIVED
KOOTENAI

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DFS

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DR

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RMS

PS L-R

T-P-C

E-O

W-T

R-X

DRS

ZES

cc

cc

cc

cc

8.

SOME POSSIBLE AREAS TO ADDRESS IN YOUR RESPONSE

1. Issue resolution.

PUBLIC ISSUES AND MGT. CONCERNS WERE ADDRESSED O.K. BUT I SEE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS IN RECREATION AND FIRE MGT. SEE ATTACHED COMMENTS.

2. Effects and impacts from the Environmental Consequences section.

I CAN'T AGREE THAT WE PLACE SO MUCH EMPHASIS ON TIMBER THAT WE ARE WILLING TO SACRIFICE ROADLESS RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES. RECREATION WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE ON THE KOOTENAI SO LETS NOT REDUCE IT. ~~Additional ideas or approaches to solutions.~~ AT THIS TIME,

IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO CUT THE PREDICTED TIMBER HMOF IN THE 80s DECADE BUT ONLY WITH VERY INTENSIVE MGT. WILL FUNDS BE AVAILABLE TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN

4. Factual (technical) errors.

SOME CHARTS SEEM QUESTIONABLE

THERE ARE QUESTIONABLE STATEMENTS I HAVE ATTEMPTED TO ADDRESS SOME OF THESE IN MY ATTACHED COMMENTS.

5. Readability and understandability.

NOT BAD FOR A F.S. DOCUMENT

STATEMENTS LIKE "ALLOWED TO BURN" MAY NOT BE RIGHT SHOULD SAY "CONTINUED TO BURN UNDER PRESCRIPTION"

6. Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area.

AT THIS TIME I PREFER THE CURRENT DIRECTION OVER THE PROPOSED DIRECTION (SEE ATTACHED NOTES) I REALLY DON'T BELIEVE THE GENERAL PUBLIC WANTS TO SEE THE EUREKA FAN IN A REGULATED TIMBER ALLOCATION.

7. Other.

ROADS IT APPEARS THAT MOST OF THE ALTERNATIVES COME UP WITH A SURPLUS OF ROADS, I SINCERELY FEEL WE COULD GET BY WITH ABOUT 25% LESS MILES OF ROAD AND BETTER PROTECT OUR RESOURCES. THIS WOULD RESULT IN A CONSIDERABLE SAVINGS IN NEEDED \$ FOR OTHER

Please remember to provide your name and address on the other side, if you wish to receive the final documents. THANK YOU for your time!

GENERALLY A GOOD DOCUMENTS WITH LOTS OF HARD WORK, GENERAL GUIDANCE IS BROAD WHICH GIVES THE LAND MANAGER A CHANCE TO STILL BE CREATIVE. DISTRICTS HAD INPUTS AT VARIOUS TIMES BUT PROBABLY INADEQUATE TO GET THE BEST PRODUCT POSSIBLE,

KOOTENAI NAT. FOREST DRAFT E.I.S.

COMMENTS & ADDITIONS

Page 19 - 6. Protection

States that in F.M.A.-2 all fires are actively suppressed.

Page II-37 - 3. Protection, Fire Mgt. Areas.

States that in F.M.A.-2 that unplanned ignitions will receive the appropriate suppression action. (This appears to be a conflict)

Following is what Fire Mgt. and Wildlife wanted in F.M.A.-2.

Both planned and unplanned prescription fires are permitted and all fires will receive the appropriate suppression action.

See Decision flow Charts # 1 & 2 in the Kootenai Forest Fire Mgt. Action Plan.

Page II-37 F.M.A.-5 Special

Instead of etc. add oversteepened slope and key wildlife areas adjacent to Lake Kootenai.

Page II - 37 Concern for increased fire suppression
Costs in F.M.A.-3

add. the fire season of 1981 showed that
Prescription fires in F.M.A.-3 were
monitored and suppression
dollars were saved in R-1 Forests. This
was due to Fire Management Classification
and Planning.

Page II - 37 Acres of F.M.A.-3

Acres may change due to boundaries of
Mgt. area allocations as shown on the map for
alternative 4a. It appears that there
will be less acres in F.M.A.-3.

This same conflict is apparent in
most of the F.M.A. between the Fire
Mgt. Action Plan and the Forest
Plan.

The question is will the Forest Fire Plan
F.M.A. fire boundaries have to
agree with the final allocation map for
proposed alternative 4a.P.

Kootenai Forest Plan Proposed Alternative
4a

This alternative is certainly workable but I have a few comments to help it better protect all the resources.

1. This alternative should protect more of the existing roadless areas as recreational needs on the Kootenai will increase. It states that this alternative falls short of the projected dispersed recreation needs and this problem should be resolved.
2. It also appears that the Forest Service has over emphasized the needs for roads on the Kootenai. I am sure the projected 12000 miles could be reduced by 25% and better protect all the resources. This savings in dollars is real and that dollars are needed for other high priority projects.
3. Planning and Fire Mgt. will have to get together to help resolve the conflict between the Mgt. area map and the F.M.A. boundaries in the Forest Fire Action Plan. I think one overall statement could resolve this to make the F.M.A. fire boundaries defensible. This potential conflict should be resolved.

Comments on the Ten Lakes Area

Most people agree this shouldn't be designated as a Wilderness Area but I feel the proposed direction is also not what the general public needs or wants.

Following are a few comments concerning this area I have observed on the ground and by talking to local residents and recreationists passing through the area.

1. Viewing - Most of the general public want this near natural looking area to stay as it is. They want it preserved for viewing and wildlife needs. The proposed direction is to put the timber in a regulated category and I don't think this is in the best interests of the general public. The current direction does protect the area better and allows for needed salvage logging. I realize that it may not be economical to salvage log this area in the near future but it doesn't need logging at this time anyway. Most of the timber harvested over in 1889 and downed fuels are light to moderate in the area.

Page 10 of the Ten Lakes Mountain Wilderness Study Act says the fuel hazard is moderate

to high which is not the case. Wildfire can be easily suppressed in this area due to light fuels on the ground. Salvage type logging and prescription fires will enhance the area in the future and provide for quality forage for big game and bird habitat.

Due to steep slopes and viewing restrictions there is no way of building roads on the Europa Face without serious resource problems. Some type of helicopter logging may be feasible in the future when timber is larger and the economy is better.

2. Recreation

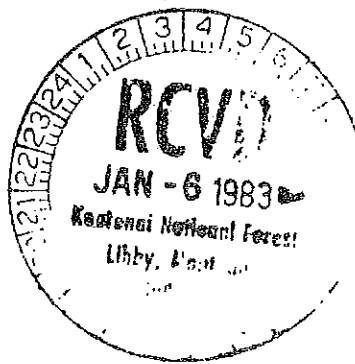
The present Forest Plan falls short of meeting the roadless recreation needs therefore the Europa Face could be designated as Non-Motorized Dispersed Recreation to help resolve this problem. This added buffer strip would only improve the recreation potential of this area.

On page 21 shouldn't the total 16,400 acres fall in Non-Motorized Dispersed recreation.

From the chart it appears that the proposed action will have less RVD; why is this if the roadless area would increase to 18,800 acres.

I think its great if we can allow snow.

mobile use in the area. Let's insure that
non-mobile use is not allowed on the existing
big-game winter range.



Return address

place
stamp
here

☐ is this an address change?

Kootenai National Forest
Supervisor's Office
P.O. Box AS
Libby, MT 59923

NAME: GEORGE CURTIS

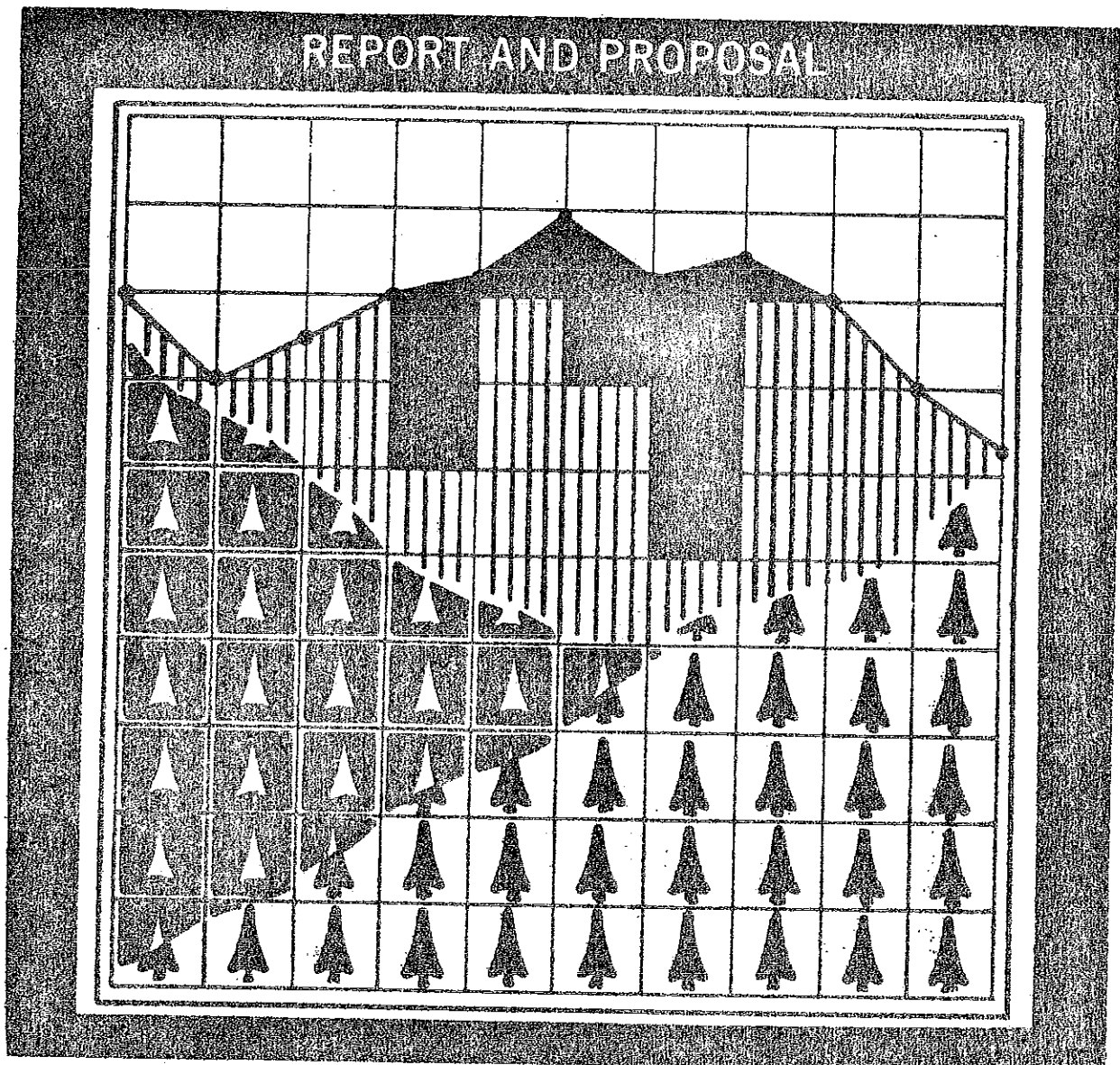
ADDRESS: BOX 666

ORGANIZATION OR
AFFILIATION, IF ANY: REXFORD DISTRICT U.S.F.S.

COPIES OF THE WRITTEN
STATEMENTS SUBMITTED AT
THE JEW LAKE HEARING
EUREKA, MONTANA

SUBMITTED INTO
THE RECORD AT
EVERETT, WASH.
(SEE ACTUAL REPORT
WHICH IS DETACHED)

TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA



United States
Department of

Forest Service

Kootenai
National

MR. WILLIAM MORDEW. Mr. Presiding Officer, ladies and gentlemen. AS directed by the Montana Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150, of November 2, 1977, the Forest Service has studied the area known as Ten Lakes for its suitability for preservation as wilderness.

The Forest Service proposal is stated in the Document entitled: Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area Report and Proposal. I would like to present this publication and a copy of my statement for the official record.

The proposal is also shown on the maps (right here behind me).

The Forest Service's Proposed Action Alternative for Ten Lakes is non-wilderness. The Proposed Action recommends that approximately 52 percent of the area (18,800 acres) be managed as a roadless recreation area. This roadless recreation area would permit snowmobiling.

The remainder of the 35,900 acre Study Area would be allocated to other appropriate forms of management, which includes about 10,000 acres where the visual resource is a major consideration, and about 6,600 acres where wildlife, including grizzly bears, receive emphasis. Timber harvest is scheduled to occur on about 16,400 acres of the Study Area and would be used primarily to enhance the wildlife and visual resources.

Five other alternatives were considered in detail during the study of Ten Lakes. These alternatives included a "No Action" alternative, which represented the existing unit plan allocations for the area which is also non-wilderness. Alternative "A" recommends a 16,400 acre wilderness, Alternative "B" proposes a 29,600 acre wilderness, Alternative "C" recommends the entire 35,900 acre area for wilderness, and Alternative "D" which proposes a 6,500 acre wilderness.

It should be noted that until Congress decides otherwise, the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area will be managed, subject to existing private rights and uses, to maintain the existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System. No timber harvest, road construction, or other developmental activities will be programmed under any alternative, including the Proposed Action until Congress makes a final decision on the management of the area.

In closing, I will briefly review the schedule of events regarding the study after this hearing. Written statements will be accepted until March 1, 1983. The Report and Proposal will be reviewed in light of the statements received and revised, as appropriate. After this review, the Forest Service will submit a final recommendation to the Forest Service Chief and the Secretary of Agriculture, who in turn will transmit them to the President and Congress. Any recommendations by the President for wilderness shall become effective only by an Act of Congress.

Thank you.



MONTANA WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF BILL CUNNINGHAM, CONSERVATION DIRECTOR FOR
THE MONTANA WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION ON THE FOREST SERVICE REPORT FOR THE
TEN LAKES WILDERNESS STUDY AREA PRESENTED AT THE FOREST SERVICE PUBLIC
HEARING AT EUREKA AND LIBBY MONTANA--JANUARY 17 & 18, 1983

In late July, 1980 I led a Montana Wilderness Association Wilderness Walk for a 3-day backpack into the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. I was tremendously impressed with the beauty and high wilderness suitability of the country and with the positive ^{land} stewardship expressed by local Forest Service officials. I was convinced that at least some of the wilderness resource would be recommended for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System in the upcoming wilderness study for the area.

I must now confess amazement and severe disappointment that no portion of the Ten Lakes WSA is proposed for Congressional Wilderness designation in the draft Forest Service report.

It is important to understand that the decision to include Ten Lakes in Sen. Metcalf's Montana Wilderness Study Act (S.393) was not made lightly or in a vacuum. Only 9 of the original 182 nonselected RARE I areas in Montana were included in the bill. This selection, made in consultation with Senator Metcalf, was based on high wilderness suitability of each of the areas.

S.393 is a unique citizen's bill conceived in the crucible of democracy, providing a fresh new mandate and an opportunity for the Forest Service to apply a new approach to the evaluation of nearly one million acres of high quality wildlands entrusted to its care. After seeing only 1/3 of one of the six S.393 areas thusfar studied receive tentative agency wilderness recommendation, I am sadly disillusioned by the process and by the way in which the process is being implemented by the Forest Service. As I mentioned, my disillusionment runs deep with regard to the nonwilderness recommendation for Ten Lakes.

I am concerned that this report violates both the spirit and the letter of the Montana Wilderness Study Act which mandates an objective wilderness study of the 9 WSA's. In the first place, the report is not a wilderness study. It contains almost nothing about the wilderness resource in Ten Lakes. The study would be more appropriately described as a "nonwilderness study" in that more information is presented on timber, mineral potential and ORV uses than about wilderness.

The report is sterile and repetitive--seemingly absent of any feeling or sensitivity for the fragile remnant wild landscape we call Ten Lakes. Although I know this is not the case, there is no real evidence that the writers of the report have ever even visited the WSA, or at least that they have visited the area on its own terms for an extensive period of time using primitive means of travel, such as foot or horseback. Only so doing can genuine sensitivity toward the wilderness resource be developed. Without this deep sensitivity there can be no wilderness study.

At minimum, a wilderness study should give the reviewer an in-depth discussion and description of the wilderness resource on a drainage by drainage (basin by basin) level. Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation should be described in detail with emphasis on topographic and geologic features, natural beauty and vegetation/habitat types. Because the WSA consists of virgin, undeveloped country which has essentially avoided human-caused change, a discussion of the influence of naturally-occurring evolutionary change over time within the study area would be appropriate. In particular, the study should more carefully discuss wildland-dependent

P.O. Box 635 • Helena, Montana 59624 • (406) 442-0597

wildlife species within the area and relate the special habitat requirement of these species to the particular habitats and micro-habitats with the Ten Lakes WSA.

Lacking also in the report is a discussion of the special wild character of Ten Lakes and each portion of Ten Lakes so that the reviewer can discern what is unique about the land in question; in short, something of the mood or feeling of the land.

The report also lacks a discussion of methodology. It is not sufficient to repeat the RARE I and RARE II wilderness ratings. We need to know whether and how WARS, for example, was specifically tailored to the Ten Lakes study area. The report does acknowledge that the area rates high in naturalness and natural integrity but discounts the opportunities for solitude. Even if we accept this assessment of solitude (which I do not) I would remind the Forest Service that the Wilderness Act of 1964 requires outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation. No one who has ever visited that area can deny its extremely high value for primitive recreation. The scenic area classification is certainly an official agency recognition of this.

S.393 contains a special mandate that the Forest Service maintain the presently existing potential of each study area for inclusion in the Wilderness System until otherwise determined by Congress. Unfortunately, some 36% of the WSA is included in the suitable timber base proposed in the draft Kootenai Forest Plan upon which a portion of future harvest levels after the first decade are dependent. This in turn seriously biases the process in that an artificial economic dependency on developing the WSA is established which is tantamount to "holding a gun" to the head of Congress when the time comes for Congressional consideration of possible wilderness designation. It is patently illegal to include any portion of any MWSA in the future timber base until and unless Congress specifically releases the area from the protective requirements of S.393. The Forest Service is hardly demonstrating objectivity by reducing the potential for inclusion of the Ten Lakes WSA in the Wilderness System in violation of S.393.

There is an additional problem aided and abetted by the Forest Service which further reduces the Ten Lakes WSA wilderness potential in violation of S.393. Since the passage of the MWSA on November 1, 1977 the Forest Service has helped establish a snowmobile "staging area" virtually on the boundary of the WSA. Such an action encourages uses, such as snowmobiling, which are inconsistent with the purposes of the Wilderness Act and S.393, thereby diminishing the area's potential for addition to the NWPS. Ironically and somewhat sadly, snowmobiling emerges in the report as one of the major reasons the Forest Service uses for its "nonsuitability" recommendation.

The study area cannot be viewed in a vacuum. It cannot be all things to all people for in so doing it will be nothing to anyone. The 16,500 acres recommended for inclusion in the Kootenai Forest timber base is insignificant when compared to the more than 1.5 million acres proposed in the Forest Plan. Yet the supply of wilderness is in appallingly short supply on the Kootenai with less and less each year as commodity pressures increase. Even the only designated wilderness on the forest, the Cabinet Mountains, is being seriously threatened and eroded by the increase pace and magnitude of mineral exploration.

Ten Lakes provides us with one of the only opportunities for wilderness in NW Montana. This opportunity can be realized with an almost insignificant commodity and nonwilderness uses tradeoff. The area is well suited for wilderness management. The existing 6500 acre Scenic Area or even a possible expansion of the Scenic Area (which is by no means assured by the Forest Service) is not an adequate substitute for the permanent statutory protection of wild country which only the Wilderness Act can provide.

There is a legitimate concern about overuse of the high fragile basins in Ten Lakes by recreationists. This is a management concern which must be dealt with regardless of the eventual allocation of the Ten Lakes. With wilderness the area will at least retain its present wild and unroaded character. Without wilderness, Ten Lakes will change and for the worse. This change in the basic character of the country will be far greater than the tracks of horse-users and hikers. With these thoughts in mind I urge the Forest Service to reconsider its proposed action and choose Alternative C for a magnificent 35,900 acre Ten Lakes Wilderness. Some small boundary modifications would be appropriate to eliminate the edges of several old cutover areas.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this preliminary statement on behalf of MWA. I do intend to submit additional material in support of a Ten Lakes Wilderness prior to the March 1 deadline.

Bill Cunningham

January 17, 1983

My name is Justin Cunningham of Helena Montana. I am 12 years old now but when I was about 9 I went on a Montana Wilderness Association backpacking trip which my dad led in July 1980. We camped at a lake called Bluebird Lake with trout that we caught and had for dinner. Also at that same lake I caught toads and frogs almost as big as my hand. From Bluebird Lake we hiked onto the main Ten Lakes Ridge where we could look down and see alot of lakes. We could see alot of rock chucks also. We hiked to Stahl Mountain which had a lookout on the top. We could see British Columbia and Glacier Park. I would prefer it if you keep the Ten Lakes Area the way it was when I was 9. So please choose alternative C so that there will be a 35,900 acre Ten Lakes Wilderness area.

Justin Cunningham
734 9th Avenue
Helena, Montana 59601

STATEMENT to the U. S. Forest Service re the Ten Lakes Montana
Wilderness Study Act Area; Eureka, Montana, January 17, 1983

I am Winton Weydemeyer, lifetime resident of the Fortine area. My acquaintance with the Ten Lakes study area and adjacent mountains is extensive, covering a period of more than 70 years. During that time I have hiked, climbed, ridden, skied, hunted or fished in most sections of the study area itself. Over the years I have seen that section of the Whitefish Range dissolve from a total roadless wilderness to a mountain range ribboned by roads, patterned by clearcuts, and heavily used by backpackers, sportsmen, snowmobilers, and the general motoring public. I have seen alpine terrain trampled and littered. My reaction is to declare "Enough is enough. Let's protect what little wild country that remains."

While recognizing that wilderness designation for all or a part of the study area might result in increased human pressures on the natural aspects of the area, I pose a basic question: which would be preferable, protection and administration under wilderness designation, or management under less restrictive and more flexible multiple-use direction?

Perhaps a bit of history will shed light on this question.

Over a long period in the past I personally sought protection of the Therriault Lakes region adjacent to the present study area. At one time I was assured by the Forest Service that no road would be built closer than five miles from Big Therriault Lake. Later, under changing plans and Forest Service personnel, I was told that the distance would be two miles. Later, half a mile. Now cars drive to the shores of the lake.

Under this sort of administration, what could happen to the Ten Lakes area in the future? It seems to me that official wilderness designation is urgent.

Ruling out the Proposed Action plan, which would leave the entire study area as non-wilderness, which Alternate Plan offers the best solution?

Alternative D, designating the original scenic area of 6500 acres as wilderness, while opening surrounding lands to development, is not acceptable. The area would be too small, recreational use would be too concentrated, and inadequate buffer zone protection would be provided.

Alternative A, providing a somewhat larger wilderness section but providing for timber management on more than half of the study area, would still leave the proposed wilderness section too restricted and narrow.

Alternative C, giving wilderness designation to the entire study area, would provide the greatest protection to the natural aspects of that portion of the range, as well as preserving the largest area of undeveloped grizzly bear habitat. I recognize that objection to this plan will be raised because it would exclude timber harvesting on some outreach boundary areas which do not possess outstanding wilderness character.

Alternative B plan overcomes these objections by excluding these areas in the northwest lobe (west and north of Independence Peak) and in the southern portion of the southern lobe (the Little Gibraltar area.)

The Kootenai National Forest Plan^{which} calls for nearly tripling the mileage of roads by the year 2030, admits that the demand for roadless recreation will not be met. In view of these projections

and related considerations, it is my recommendation that Alternative C, providing wilderness designation for the entire study area, be adopted. As a necessary compromise minimum, I would strongly support Alternative B.

May I compliment the Forest Service for an excellent study of the area, and for the opportunity to present these views.

Winton Weydemeyer
Winton Weydemeyer
Box 77
Fortine, Montana 59918

Snowmobiling in the Ten Lakes area provides a unique experience to the public. Because of the open basins with frozen lakes, snowmobilers can enjoy the beauty of the area and at the same time have a wilderness experience. It is close enough to vehicle access that a one day trip can cover several thousand acres and with a wintering cabin, an overnight stay is also possible. In the spring time while the valleys are thawing out, the snow conditions are ideal in the high country for beautiful scenery and snow recreation.

SUBMITTED BY MR. PERSHALL

1 UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

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3
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5 COPY

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8 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

9 FOR THE KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST PROPOSAL FOR
10 TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA (PL 95-150)

11
12
13
14 PUBLIC HEARING

15 Taken at the Venture Inn
16 Libby, Montana
17 Tuesday, January 18, 1983 - 2:00 p.m.

18
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20
21
22
23
24 Reported by Melody Jeffries, Official-Freelance Court
25 Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula,
Montana.

I N D E X

HEARINGS OFFICER: LAWRENCE M. JAKUB

U.S. FOREST SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES:

PAUL LEIMBACH, Forest Supervisor's Office
TIM O'GORMAN, Forest Supervisor's Office
GARY MORGAN, Forest Supervisor's Office
JOHN PRITCHARD, Murphy Lake District Ranger

Introduction and Meeting Objectives. . . Lawrence M. Jakub. . . 3
Forest Service Study Results Gary Morgan. 6

SPEAKERS:

LARRY BLASING, Director of Forestry Service Programs,
Inland Forest Resource Council, Missoula, Montana 9

JOHN McBRIDE, St. Regis Paper Company, Route 1, Box 1218,
St. Regis, Montana. 10

BILL CUNNINGHAM, Conservation Director of the Montana
Wilderness Association, P.O. Box 635, Helena, Montana . . 11

JAY VEST, Graduate Researcher, University of Montana,
Missoula, Montana 18

KEITH ENGEBRETSON, District Land Manager, Champion
Timberlands, Pleasant Valley District, Marion, Montana. . 24

RONALD BUENTEMEIR, FHA Stoltze Land & Lumber Co., Columbia
Falls, Montana. 26

JOHN MARCEAU, Plum Creek Lumber Company, Columbia Falls,
Montana 27

BUD JOURNEY, Route 2, Box 250, Libby, Montana 27

BOB HOLIDAY, 519 Lewis Avenue, Libby, Montana 29

NED E. DECKER, Route 2, Box 577, Libby, Montana 33

PATRICK CONNELL, Route 2, Box 62, Libby, Montana. 37

JACK MANSKI, Libby Snowmobile Club, Box 751F, Libby,
Montana 41

Certificate of Court Reporter ; 42

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1983

(Whereupon, the following proceedings were had and entered of record:)

HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, if everybody could take your seats, I think we'll get started. It's 2:00 and we want to get this thing on the road.

Ladies and gentlemen, the hearing will please come to order. This hearing has been called for the purpose of considering results of the Forest Service studies concerning the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. To be sure that the nature and purpose of the hearing are fully understood and that a complete hearing record is established, I'm going to briefly review the background for this hearing session today.

On November 1st of 1977, Congress passed the Montana Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150. The Act requires the Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations to Congress on the wilderness suitability of nine separate national forest areas in Montana comprising nine hundred seventy-three thousand acres.

Two of the nine areas, Mount Henry and Ten Lakes, are on the Kootenai National Forest. Mount Henry, twenty-three thousand four hundred acres in size, was addressed in a regional report and proposal along with two other study areas in Montana, the Taylor-Hilgard and the West Pioneer Montana Wilderness Study Act Area. The Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness

1 Act Area, an area of thirty-five thousand nine hundred acres,
2 was analyzed as part of the Kootenai National Forest planning
3 process. A map of the Ten Lakes Area and its environs, as well
4 as maps of the alternatives analyzed, are displayed on the wall
5 in this room.

6 This hearing, the one yesterday at Eureka, as well as
7 the session at Kalispell tomorrow, January 19th, are being held
8 to consider the results of the Forest Service's study.

9 In accordance with the public notice this hearing is
10 reconvened and opened today, January 18th, 1983, at two p.m. at
11 the Venture Inn at Libby, Montana. I have been designated as
12 the presiding officer at this hearing. My name is Lawrence M.
13 Jakub and I am the attorney in charge for the U.S. Department
14 of Agriculture, Office of General Counsel, located at Missoula,
15 Montana.

16 Now, a few words about the procedure which will be
17 followed at this hearing. This hearing is not a debate, a
18 trial, or a question and answer assembly, but an advisory
19 hearing wherein all interested persons may present written or
20 oral statements or other information relative to the matters
21 named in the notice by the Regional Forester. The statement of
22 interested parties will not be taken under oath. But each
23 person desiring to express their views should come to the front
24 of the room and state your name, your address, and whom you
25 represent, if anyone, and then the nature of your interest in

1 the matter. And you'll be speaking at the same microphone to
2 which I'm addressing you at this moment.

3 When giving your statement, you should speak slowly
4 and distinctly so that the reporter to my right can record your
5 complete statement. I'm not going to set a time limit, however,
6 statements from five to ten minutes should be appropriate.

7 In lieu of making an oral statement, interested
8 persons may file written statements discussing the results of
9 the study. Written statements or exhibits submitted during the
10 hearing will become a part of the hearing record and will be
11 available for public inspection while this hearing is in
12 progress, during recesses or at any other time. Anyone
13 interested in knowing what has been submitted and not read in
14 this hearing may contact the reporter or me and examine the
15 statement. To accommodate those who have not prepared written
16 statements and who desire to submit written statements or other
17 material to this proceeding, the record will be kept open until
18 March 1st of this year. Written statements or other materials
19 submitted prior to March 1st will become part of the official
20 hearing record. These statements should be sent to the Forest
21 Supervisor of the Kootenai National Forest here at Libby.

22 Also, information received at this hearing will be
23 recorded and a transcript prepared by the recorder after the
24 hearing. The completed transcript will be open to the public
25 for inspection at the offices of the Regional Forester at the

1 Federal Building in Missoula or here at the Forest Supervisor's
2 Office at Libby.

3 Anyone desiring a copy of the transcript should make
4 arrangements with the reporter to obtain one and, again, the
5 reporter is sitting at the table to my right.

6 For the purpose of determining how many persons desire
7 to make an oral statement, a register has been located at the
8 entrance to this room for those who wish to present statements
9 today, and we'll start out by calling those who have registered.
10 If you have a written statement that you are reading or
11 summarizing today, I would like to have you leave a copy of
12 that statement with the reporter at the time that you finish.

13 First of all, I'm going to ask the Forest Service to
14 outline the results of their study and then I'll ask for any
15 elected officials or any persons representing a federal or
16 state or local agency, and then the general public as indicated
17 in the register, or as they want to indicate later, can then
18 testify or make a statement.

19 First of all, to present the views of the Forest
20 Service we'll hear from Mr. Gary Morgan, who will be acting on
21 behalf of Mr. William Morden who is the Forest Supervisor for
22 Kootenai National Forest.

23 MR. MORGAN: Thank you, Larry. Mr. Presiding officer,
24 ladies and gentlemen, as directed by the Montana Wilderness
25 Study Act, Public Law 95-150, of November 2nd, 1977, the Forest

1 Service has studied the area known as Ten Lakes for its
2 suitability for preservation as wilderness.

3 The Forest Service proposal is stated in the document
4 entitled: Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area Report
5 and Proposal. I would like to present this publication and a
6 copy of my statement for the official record.

7 The proposal is also shown on the maps in front of me,
8 to my right.

9 The Forest Service's Proposed Action Alternative for
10 Ten Lakes is nonwilderness. The Proposed Action recommends
11 that approximately fifty-two percent of the area, eighteen
12 thousand eight hundred acres, be managed as a roadless recreation
13 area. This roadless recreation area would permit snowmobiling.

14 The remainder of the thirty-five thousand nine hundred
15 acre Study Area would be allocated to other appropriate forms
16 of management, which includes about ten thousand acres where
17 the visual resource is a major consideration, and about six
18 thousand six hundred acres where wildlife, including grizzly
19 bears, receive emphasis. Timber harvest is scheduled to occur
20 on about sixteen thousand four hundred acres of the Study Area
21 and would be coordinated to protect and enhance the wildlife
22 and visual resources.

23 Five other alternatives were considered in detail
24 during the study of Ten Lakes. These alternatives included a
25 "No Action" alternative, which represented the existing unit

1 plan allocations for the area which is also nonwilderness.

2 Alternative A recommends a sixteen thousand four hundred acre
3 wilderness. Alternative B proposes a twenty-nine thousand six
4 hundred acre wilderness, Alternative C recommends the entire
5 thirty-five thousand nine hundred acre for wilderness and
6 Alternative D, which proposes a six thousand five hundred acre
7 wilderness.

8 It should be noted that until Congress decides
9 otherwise, the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area will be managed,
10 subject to existing private rights and uses, to maintain the
11 existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in
12 the National Wilderness Preservation System. No timber harvest,
13 road construction or other developmental activities will be
14 programmed under any alternative, including the Proposed Action,
15 until Congress makes a final decision on the management of the
16 area.

17 In closing, I will briefly review the schedule of
18 events regarding this study after this hearing. Written
19 statements will be accepted until March 1st, 1983. The report
20 and proposal will be reviewed in light of these statements
21 received and revised, as appropriate. After this review, the
22 Forest Service will submit a final recommendation to the Forest
23 Service Chief and Secretary of Agriculture, who will in turn
24 transmit them to the President and Congress. Any
25 recommendations by the President for wilderness shall become

1 effective only by an act of Congress. Thank you.

2 HEARINGS OFFICER: Are there any elected public
3 officials or representatives here who wish to make a statement?
4 Are there any persons representing a federal or state or local
5 agency here that would like to make a statement on behalf of
6 their agency? All right, the first person that I have on my
7 list, then, to make a statement is Larry Blasing.

8 MR. BLASING: Thank you. My name is Larry Blasing.
9 I'm director of Forestry Service Programs for the Inland Forest
10 Resource Council of Missoula, Montana. The Inland Resource
11 Council is an association of Forest Service products companies
12 that operate manufacturing facilities in Montana and Northern
13 Idaho. Thank you for letting me jump up a spot or two. Both
14 John McBride and I have appointments in Helena tomorrow morning
15 and we're a bit pressed for time.

16 We have -- After reviewing the proposed plan for the
17 Ten Lakes Area, we feel that the Forest Service has adequately
18 studied the area and complied with the intent of the law under
19 S.393. We essentially support the plan that you have proposed
20 and we'll be submitting written comments in more detail at a
21 later time.

22 We feel that the history of use in the area dictates
23 that the area not be recommended for wilderness and we
24 certainly support your nonwilderness recommendation.
25 Snowmobile use in the area has been important, timber harvest

1 in the vicinity of the area, other recreational pursuits, the
2 necessity to be able to manage the lands for wildlife,
3 including grizzly bears, I think are important considerations
4 that preclude wilderness. We support the recommendations and
5 recognize that the commercial forest lands around the periphery
6 of the area are important for timber harvest and we will be
7 probably making some additional recommendations, specific
8 recommendations in terms of how those areas might be better
9 utilized. That's enough there. We'll send the rest of it
10 in our written comments.

11 HEARINGS OFFICER: John McBride.

12 MR. MCBRIDE: I'm John McBride, St. Regis Paper
13 Company. For an address, this is my home address, it's Route 1,
14 Box 1218. St. Regis Paper Company is a forest product company
15 and we're dependent upon forest products and as a result we are
16 quite interested in the timber aspects of this country,
17 including Ten Lakes, although it's at the edge of our influence.

18 We do feel that the Forest Service has complied with
19 the law and with the intent of the law in managing the area
20 under the S.393, Public Law 95-150. The closest proposal that
21 is written out, we feel, is the Proposed Action the Forest
22 Service has. We might prefer to see timber addressed a little
23 more extensively than it is, but we do find that the Proposed
24 Action is adequate and effective. We feel that it not only
25 protects our interest, it actually protects a number of other

1 public interests that are beyond the scope of St. Regis.

2 To be good citizens, therefore, St. Regis feels we are
3 quite ready and willing to adopt and completely support the
4 Forest Service proposal.

5 HEARINGS OFFICER: Bill Cunningham.

6 MR. CUNNINGHAM: Mr. Presiding officer, ladies and
7 gentlemen, my name is Bill Cunningham. I'm representing the
8 Montana Wilderness Association as conservation director for MWA,
9 and my address is Post Office Box 635, Helena, Montana. I'm
10 very pleased to be here today and to have this opportunity to
11 express our concerns for the sound and long-term management of
12 the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area. Yesterday I presented the
13 bulk of my testimony at the Forest Service public hearing in
14 Eureka so I'll summarize the remainder of my testimony today.

15 The Montana Wilderness Association in cooperation with
16 other conservation organizations and conservationists in this
17 part of the world support wilderness designation for the Ten
18 Lakes Area. We would like to see Alternative C implemented,
19 which would provide for a wilderness of some thirty-five
20 thousand nine hundred acres. I'm very personally familiar with
21 the Ten Lakes Area, having visited the area twice. One trip
22 was a very brief trip, seven or eight years ago when we were
23 first contemplating the Ten Lakes Area as one of the nine areas
24 contained in the Montana Wilderness Study Act. More recently
25 in cooperation with local Forest Service officials I toured the

1 Ten Lakes Study Area for a three-day backpacking trip and
2 enjoyed the company thoroughly and became very impressed with
3 the high wilderness suitability with this small, fragile
4 remnant of wild country which still exists in Northwestern
5 Montana.

6 I would like to comment on the methodology contained
7 within the report for the assessment of the wilderness resource.
8 Unfortunately, the Ten Lakes report lacks a discussion of
9 methodology or, in other words, how is that resource of
10 wilderness assessed, how is it viewed, how is it evaluated. The
11 law, I would remind the Forest Service, called S.393 mandates
12 a wilderness study and yet I have serious question as to
13 whether this report can really be called a wilderness study.
14 It might more appropriately be termed a nonwilderness study in
15 that nonwilderness resources of minerals, timber and
16 nonwilderness uses, such as snowmobiling, receive much more
17 consideration in the report than does the resource of wilderness.

18 It is not sufficient to merely repeat the original
19 Rare I and Rare II wilderness ratings, which the report does.
20 We need to know whether and how the wilderness attribute rating
21 system, for example, was specifically tailored to the Ten Lakes
22 Study Area. There's nothing in the report that indicates it
23 was.

24 The report does acknowledge that the area rates high
25 in naturalness and natural integrity, but the report goes on to

1 discount the opportunities for solitude, largely on the basis
2 of the repudiated sights and sounds criterion that has been the
3 basis for nonwilderness recommendations in the past. Sights
4 and sounds of civilization aren't a valid reason for the
5 exclusion of otherwise qualified areas for wilderness.
6 Congress has repeatedly made this pronouncement in hearing
7 report after hearing report, in abundant legislative history
8 and testimony concerning various wilderness proposals, some of
9 which have been made within the State of Montana, such as the
10 Great Bear Wilderness and the Welcome Creek Wilderness south of
11 Missoula and yet we see the same, tired, old sights and sounds
12 argument recycled again in this report to justify a
13 nonwilderness recommendation.

14 The Wilderness Act of 1964, which is the basic
15 authority under which wilderness areas are administered and
16 protected, requires that outstanding opportunities for solitude
17 or primitive and unconfined recreation exist within the area.
18 So even if we accept the Forest Service's pronouncement that
19 the area lacks solitude, which we certainly do not, no one who
20 has ever visited the area can deny its extremely high value for
21 primitive and unconfined recreation. The Scenic Area
22 classification which exists in Ten Lakes is certainly an
23 official agency recognition of this high recreation quality.
24 What I'm trying to say then, in summary, is that the area we
25 call Ten Lakes is eminently well-qualified for federal

1 wilderness classification.

2 I want to discuss for a moment the mandate of the
3 Montana Wilderness Study Act; that is, that the Forest Service
4 maintain the presently existing potential for each study area
5 for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System
6 until otherwise determined by Congress. We see in this report
7 and in the Kootenai Forest plan that's proposed that some
8 thirty-six percent of the Wilderness Study Area is included in
9 the suitable timber base proposed in the plan and that a small
10 portion of future timber harvests on the Kootenai is partly
11 dependent on access in and developing this thirty-six percent
12 or approximately sixteen and a half thousand acres of so-called
13 suitability timberland within the Study Area. The concern we
14 have is that this can bias the process of objectivity for
15 wilderness studies that is required in the Montana Wilderness
16 Study Act in that an artificial economic dependency on
17 developing the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area is established.

18 Therefore, when the time comes for Congress to
19 consider the Ten Lakes as a possible addition to the wilderness
20 system, the industry most assuredly will say, well, you can't
21 do that, Congress, because X-amount of timber harvest is
22 scheduled or programmed after the first decade within the Ten
23 Lakes Area and so we see a future dependency that is created
24 that, in our view, tends to diminish the potential for
25 inclusion of the area in the wilderness system, in violation of

1 the intent of the Montana Wilderness Study Act.

2 I want to make it clear that I'm not charging the
3 Forest Service with an intentional violation of this intent,
4 but the bottom line is the same in terms of the diminishment of
5 that potential which is vitally important to maintain, if there
6 is, in fact, going to be a truly objective assessment of the
7 wilderness resource.

8 There is an additional problem encouraged by the
9 Forest Service that we feel also has perhaps inadvertently
10 diminished the potential of the Study Area within the study
11 system. Since passage of the act in 1977 the Forest Service
12 has helped establish a snowmobile staging area in cooperation
13 with the State of Montana Parks Division. This staging area is
14 literally on the boundary of the Wilderness Study Area on the
15 Grave Creek Road. Such an action encourages uses such as
16 snowmobiling, which are inconsistent with the purposes of the
17 Wilderness Act and with the intent of the Montana Wilderness
18 Study Act. Thereby, again, diminishing the area's potential
19 for addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System.
20 Ironically, and I think somewhat sadly, snowmobiling emerges in
21 the report as one of the major reasons the Forest Service uses
22 for its nonwilderness recommendation.

23 It's important to recognize that Ten Lakes can't be
24 viewed in a vacuum, nor can it be all things to all people.
25 It's a very tiny, fragile remnant of wild country surrounded by

1 a sea of roads and clearcuts. There's going to be a million
2 and a half acres of the Kootenai Forest accessed, roaded and
3 developed and, for the most part, that's good. We need that
4 timber base to sustain timber industry and employment in
5 Lincoln County, but we also need places for refuge, for
6 solitude; places to diversify our economy, to help our
7 recreation industry, which interestingly enough has been one of
8 the few stable bright spots in our Northwestern Montana economy,
9 and if we destroy these small, wild places in the name of
10 short-sighted timber development and additional roads, we're
11 definitely going to suffer long-term economic as well as social
12 and environmental impacts.

13 The Ten Lakes provides us then with one of the only
14 opportunities for wilderness in Northwest Montana. This
15 opportunity can be realized with an almost insignificant
16 commodity of nonwilderness use trade-off. Ten Lakes is
17 well-suited for wilderness management, as I've already
18 indicated. The existing sixty-five hundred acres scenic area
19 or even a possible eighteen thousand acre expansion of the
20 scenic area, which is by no means insured in the report
21 proposed by the Forest Service, is not an adequate substitute
22 for the permanent statutory protection of wild country which
23 only the Wilderness Act can provide. For those of us who would
24 like to see the area remain as it is, nothing less than the
25 Wilderness Act will do.

1 The report calls for some sixty-nine miles of new
2 roads within some sixteen thousand four hundred acres of that
3 which is currently roadless and wild. Anyone who thinks that
4 the area is going to stay like it is, as a wild and scenic area,
5 is extremely naive if that proposed alternative is implemented.
6 There is a legitimate concern about overuse of the high,
7 fragile lake basins in Ten Lakes by recreationists.

8 Some people are concerned about what we call the neon
9 sign syndrome of wilderness that if you put a wilderness tag on
10 the area, that's going to attract use, which, in turn, will
11 cause impacts. That's a legitimate concern as I indicated, but
12 not necessarily one that's dependent entirely upon wilderness
13 designation. Ten Lakes has been discovered, it's being used by
14 people and whether we call it wilderness or not, it will
15 continue to incur an increase in recreational use. What we
16 need to do with the area is prevent new roading, maintain the
17 presently wild and roadless condition through wilderness
18 management and then manage the people in the area so that we
19 are able to sustain the populations of threatened wildlife,
20 such as grizzly bear, and the other values which exist in the
21 area. But the problem of recreational overuse is a management
22 problem that exists irrespective of wilderness designation.

23 I've appreciated the opportunity to submit this
24 statement. I would like to request that two additional letters
25 be inserted in the hearing record in support of a thirty-five

1 thousand acre Ten Lake Wilderness. One letter is from Mr.
2 Graetz, publisher of Montana Magazine from Helena. Mr. Graetz
3 stresses the economic values of wilderness recreation and
4 wilderness protection as a means of diversifying and
5 stabilizing our economy without harming the land itself.

6 I have another personal letter in support of
7 Alternative C from Ellen Arguimbau, A-R-G-U-I-M-B-A-U, also of
8 Helena, Montana. Thank you for this opportunity.

9 HEARINGS OFFICER: Jay Vest.

10 MR. VEST: My name is Jay Vest and I'm a graduate
11 researcher at the University of Montana. I'm from Missoula.
12 My specialty there is wilderness history and philosophy and
13 policy. What I would like to do, first of all, is amplify on
14 some of the historic and philosophic principles in relation to
15 this, and then at a later date I will submit a comprehensive
16 policy assessment of the study.

17 First of all, we are basically Northern Europeans in
18 origin, and in Europe about three thousand years ago the
19 wilderness concept developed. There was a civilization there
20 known as the Celtic civilization and they established
21 wilderness sanctuaries known as nematones. These areas were
22 sacred. And you also see this in the Germanic peoples. The
23 areas were known as irminsuls. The point of this is we have a
24 wilderness heritage as old as our race. The areas were
25 established as a basis from which the people would study the

1 ecology of their land and relate that to the developments that
2 they needed to do under agricultural land to see that they
3 didn't destroy their other lands, as well as for spiritual
4 purposes, which I'll get into a little bit later.

5 The problem that developed in Northern Europe was that
6 when the Romans moved north and conquered Gaul and Britain,
7 Germany, they burned these sacred groves, they destroyed them,
8 and an imperial attitude was developed; one that set up cities
9 where they could not be self-sustaining and supporting, where
10 they had to draw heavily upon the hinterlands of the region,
11 and the result was that Europe today is practically paved.
12 It's -- Very little wild land is left in Europe.

13 Well, this same value was brought to North America and
14 when the early explorers and adventurers came to North America,
15 they came with a kind of exploit-developed attitude, an
16 extremely greedy attitude, and you can see this in accounts of
17 Cortez, De Soto or Ponce de Leon who, in fact, was looking for
18 gold and not a fountain of youth.

19 They encountered a people who were living basically in
20 a harmonious manner to some extent, or at least coexisting I
21 should say. I don't like the term harmony because you're going
22 to have some impact to exist as a species, and that's our right
23 as a species, but they are coexisting with their environment.
24 As the -- It's been tough for us in this country, but we've
25 begun to develop this. As we've gone through and developed

1 North America, we've developed ninety-eight percent of it. And
2 we had a wilderness dependent economy bent on developing these
3 lands.

4 Today, two percent of North America is in a wild
5 condition. If we are dependent on that last two percent to
6 sustain ourselves, then I would say that we're in a very sad
7 shape. We're not only in a crisis as recognized by our current
8 recession -- or depression. I don't like the term recession.
9 I think it is, in fact, a depression. My point is that we
10 can't continue to be based on a wilderness dependent economy.
11 We have to strive for some sort of stable state economy, a
12 balanced economy, one that we can maintain and sustain over the
13 long term over our productive lands.

14 On the Kootenai Forest, the timber base is one point
15 five million acres, according to the most recent draft plan.
16 That certainly, in relation to this small Ten Lakes Wilderness
17 Study Area, is a much better environment to harvest timber on
18 and it's absurd to say that we have to have this last little
19 area to sustain our economy.

20 The other aspects I would like to emphasize is in
21 terms of wilderness and multiple use. Wilderness tends to be a
22 soft kind of land use practice; by that, it does not consume
23 the land. The land maintains its health. We can go into
24 wilderness areas that are large enough to where we can observe
25 large areas of land, an ecosystem's health, and the state that

1 it's in. As such, then we can use that to compare with like
2 similar ecosystems that have been jeopardized by consuming-type
3 activities and thereby forestall some kind of land catastrophe
4 such as what's happened in much of Europe. For example, a
5 nation state such as Greece has fallen from any kind of
6 platitude of power and so forth of leadership, basically
7 because they destroyed their land base.

8 The hard uses tend to be the true lockup because the
9 land is involved in generating one particular kind of resource,
10 such as, for example, development for timber and this kind of
11 thing; oil and gas, mining, those are hard base. They may be
12 necessary and I'm not denying that at all. I emphasize that.
13 I think that's important. I think we have to recognize that,
14 but I think at the same time we have to make -- sustain our
15 actions there or make it sustainable. We need wild places so
16 that we can compare the health of these kinds of landscapes.
17 If, for example, in the Kootenai Forest, if twelve thousand
18 miles of road are developed as the Forest Service plan
19 suggests, these small, wild areas, the Ten Lakes, for example,
20 will be an oasis in what almost will be a desert. The balance
21 you see today won't exist. As they say, the wilderness will be
22 an oasis. It will be a refuge from the kinds of hard
23 activities I was just talking about. It will provide a place
24 for a continuation of frontier values, something I think that's
25 very important here in Montana.

1 Seeing as how we are one of the last developed states,
2 we have a chance to do our development in such a way as to
3 prevent the total annihilation of our land base, what's
4 happened in many other states. We also have a chance to hang
5 on to our frontier heritage, such as guides and outfitters
6 taking horses into this area and this sort of thing. That's
7 the kind of frontier thing -- It would be a shame to see that
8 lost, that quality of life.

9 The other aspect I want to emphasize is the spiritual
10 solitude, which is a concept that has not been fully explained
11 or investigated by the Federal Resource Agency, and it's a
12 concept that interests me very strongly so I've been tracking
13 it down. Etymologically, solitude can be traced back to the
14 Latin "solace" and "tude". So the soul relates to the sun, or
15 the soul in here (indicating). The "tude" is an abstraction
16 for a mood. So the result is soul mood. That's spirituality.
17 At that point, it's not so much how far you are alone in the
18 sense you need the wild environment for this kind of thing in
19 the terms of what I was talking about in Northern Europe with
20 the sacred groves and so forth, but you also -- It's not so
21 much a matter of being alone from others. It's the matter of
22 degree in which they behave. Merely being alone does not
23 constitute spirituality. We all know that. If people behave
24 in a spiritual manner and a sacred manner, then we can accept
25 them and recognize their presence and still enjoy the solitude

1 of the wilderness. For many people this is a very strong
2 spiritual preference for wilderness and, therefore, under the
3 idea of religious freedom, if we take that away, those people
4 do not have the chance to experience their religion as other
5 people who go to church on Sundays.

6 Another aspect of this spiritual concept is today
7 these wildernesses are our sacred lands of North America. One
8 thing I haven't noticed yet, and I admit I haven't gone through
9 the study in great detail yet, but I haven't seen it yet, and
10 that is an assessment of the sacred sights that might exist in
11 the Ten Lakes. And now by this I mean ceremonial sights used
12 by the native peoples who inhabited this region. If you find
13 the presence of a vision quest site, for example, which is a
14 solitary right by which a Native American is guided through his
15 or her life, then you are finding -- and the area is in an
16 apparently natural condition, then you are finding outstanding
17 solitude because it's sacred. And I haven't seen that assessed
18 yet in these kinds of plans and so forth. It's a part of my
19 research, but I wanted to emphasize that here, so again I'm
20 emphasizing the rights of the people, their religion and this
21 sort of aspect, and we just talk about a small area out of a
22 vast land base.

23 Another aspect I want to emphasize is that wilderness
24 nurtured us as a species. We would not have emerged dominant
25 if it weren't for the wilderness. It's selected for us. It

1 helped us become what we are in any aspect you want to take it.
2 Even if you take it through the Judaic-Christian tradition,
3 humankind was cast out of the garden to develop into the
4 wilderness in that sense and it has done us the greatest good
5 in that sense.

6 Okay, another aspect I would like to continue on
7 slightly with is --

8 HEARINGS OFFICER: Excuse me, I'll give you another
9 minute, okay?

10 MR. VEST: Okay, let me just go back to the theme I
11 just touched on earlier and that's coexistence. If we have a
12 charge in life, we have a charge to coexist with the others,
13 other than human persons out there, the wildlife, the landscape
14 and so forth. So by coexisting we can have some sacred areas
15 preserved, their values preserved for themselves, for their own
16 purposes, to be what they are and not just for us. Thank you,
17 and I support Alternative C. I will make a more detailed
18 statement of the policy and so forth at a later date.

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: Keith Engebretson.

20 MR. ENGBRETSON: My name is Keith Engebretson. I am
21 the District Land Manager for Champion's Timberlands Pleasant
22 Valley District at Marion, Montana. I would like to thank you
23 for this opportunity to express Champion's statement here.

24 Champion International Corporation manages six hundred
25 eighty-two thousand acres of timberlands in Western Montana.

1 It operates a total of eleven mills and plants in Montana and
2 Idaho.

3 Champion supports and recommends the adoption of the
4 "Proposed Action" alternative for the Ten Lakes Montana
5 Wilderness Study Act Area. The "Proposed Action" alternative
6 of the Kootenai National Forest Draft Environmental Impact
7 Statement calls for a nonwilderness classification. Champion
8 agrees with this because, first, they feel that there is
9 adequate legislated wilderness in the National Wilderness
10 System. Presently, one point seven million acres is within one
11 hundred fifty air miles and point four million acres is within
12 one hundred air miles of the Study Area.

13 Second, it feels that Ten Lakes does not lend itself
14 to a high opportunity for solitude, primarily because of the
15 irregular configuration of the area and also the existing roads
16 and previous logging activity adjacent to the Study Area.

17 The Ten Lakes Study Area has provided a diversity of
18 uses other than timber production which has added to the
19 stability of the local economy, as is currently being witnessed
20 presently under our depressed economy. These uses provide a
21 more balanced local economic base. By narrowing the economic
22 base with the inclusion of the Study Area into wilderness,
23 either totally or partially, places insecurity on the local
24 economic stability.

25 Champion's pulp and paper mill at Frenchtown depends

1 heavily upon the raw materials generated from the mills in the
2 vicinity of Ten Lakes. The Frenchtown pulp mill produces five
3 hundred thousand tons of finished product annually and employs
4 seven hundred people. To accomplish this goal it requires ten
5 percent roundwood and ninety percent wastewood in the form of
6 wood chips and sawdust. The local mills, specifically American
7 Timber Company, Kasanka Lumber Company and the Owens and Hurst
8 Lumber Company currently provide one third of the wastewood
9 needs for the Frenchtown mill. But Kootenai National Forest
10 accounts for sixty percent of the local mills' roundwood usage.
11 By reducing this timber base, it would add to the already
12 dwindling timber supply. Therefore, Champion's concern is
13 maintaining the timber base in order to meet present and future
14 wood product demands. Thank you.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: Ronald Buentemeir.

16 MR. BUENTEMEIR: Thank you. My name is Ronald
17 Buentemeir. I reside at 225 Dillon Road, Columbia Falls,
18 Montana. My comments today are made first as a professional
19 forester, and secondly, as a forester for FHA Stoltze Land and
20 Lumber Company in Columbia Falls, Montana. I am personally
21 familiar with the area. I have been familiar with it for over
22 twenty years and I support and our company supports the Forest
23 Service's alternative. We think that is the best management
24 and I personally think that's the best management for those
25 acres. Thank you.

1 HEARINGS OFFICER: John Marceau.

2 MR. MARCEAU: My name is John Marceau. I live in
3 Eureka, I'm employed by Plum Creek Lumber Company, Incorporated,
4 Columbia Falls, Montana. We agree with the Forest Service's
5 alternative for the Ten Lakes Scenic Area by withdrawing it
6 from the wilderness classification and also support their
7 alternative. We believe that there's been adequate study, time
8 and effort that's been expended into studying this area and
9 they have come up with a viable alternative.

10 HEARINGS OFFICER: Bud Journey.

11 MR. JOURNEY: My name is Bud Journey. I can't believe
12 I'm here defending the appropriateness of the Ten Lakes Area as
13 wilderness. There's so pitiful little of this country that is
14 wilderness that it's preposterous that we don't jump at the
15 opportunity to include this area in the nation's wilderness
16 system.

17 A person need only take out a map and look at the
18 paltry amount of this two and a half million acre forest that
19 is wilderness to see the crying need for more. If all of the
20 Ten Lakes Area and all the Scotchman Peak's area and all the
21 proposed additions to the Cabinet Wilderness is combined with
22 the existing Cabinet Wilderness, the total acreage would be
23 less than ten percent of the Kootenai National Forest.

24 That's pretty pathetic when you look at the rapidly
25 growing demand for a rapidly decreasing resource: Roadless

1 recreation. The proposed forest plan admits that demand for
2 roadless recreation will exceed supply within forty years.
3 That's a pretty questionable prediction when you look at the
4 increase in demand in other parts of the country. There are
5 already use restrictions in some national parks and
6 wildernesses in other states, as well as on some rivers. The
7 heavily used Cabinet Mountain Wilderness Area is a prime
8 candidate for use restrictions in the near future. It's
9 inevitable; there simply isn't enough space for the demands
10 that will be put on it. It's already difficult or impossible
11 for outfitters to get some types of use permits in the Kootenai
12 National Forest because of development that's already occurred.
13 That's only one symptom of increasing use conflicts. What's
14 needed is more wilderness and nonmotorized recreational
15 opportunities, not less. Incidentally, the forest points out
16 this projected shortfall in roadless recreation, but proposes
17 no remedy for the problem.

18 I support motorized recreation on public lands. I
19 think the right to drive cars, four-wheel drive vehicles,
20 motorcycles, snowmobiles and other recreational vehicles should
21 be protected. I use them myself. However, to deny wilderness
22 designation in Ten Lakes because of snowmobiles or motorcycle
23 use is ridiculous. There are six thousand miles of roads
24 already on this forest and there will eventually be twelve
25 thousand if the engineers have their way. Even with the

1 maximum number of road closures there will still be over
2 seventy-five hundred miles of open roads. With all of those
3 miles of roads to run on, is it necessary to sacrifice the Ten
4 Lakes Wilderness so that a very limited number of people can
5 scoot around there in the winter on snowmobiles?

6 It really is pathetic that we have to go through this
7 rigamorole to defend the Ten Lakes Area as wilderness. What
8 should be on trial here is the Kootenai National Forest's plan
9 to tree farm the other ninety percent of the rest of the forest.

10 I'm not happy with the meager thirty-five thousand
11 nine hundred acres offered as wilderness in plan C. To have to
12 go begging hat-in-hand for such a paltry sum of wilderness
13 outrages my sense of propriety, but it seems the best option
14 offered by the Forest Service, so I support Alternative C.
15 Thank you.

16 HEARINGS OFFICER: Could you state where you're from?

17 MR. JOURNEY: I'm from Libby, Montana.

18 HEARINGS OFFICER: Bob Holiday.

19 MR. HOLIDAY: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I'm
20 from 519 Lewis Avenue, Libby, Montana. I kind of have to speak
21 a little bit about the Ten Lakes Area. To me, fencing off an
22 area and not using it is kind of like fencing off a wheat field
23 and not using it. A wheat field, when it's growing up at a
24 certain period of time, the wind blows through it, you see
25 waves rolling through the grass and it's a thing of beauty.

1 But pretty soon it begins getting ripe and the heads begin to
2 fall over and maybe people outside the fence begin to get
3 hungry for that wheat and the wheat is all fenced in because
4 it's wilderness area. Well, it seems to me that we have
5 resources and the resources are growing only in certain
6 places. They're not necessarily growing.

7 The Ten Lakes Area, the people that are the head of
8 the Anaconda Company prior to when Montana was a state
9 developed some mines in there and they looked like real good
10 mines, but it's so inaccessible that they dropped them because
11 they couldn't get near them. Well, the point is there very
12 probably is pretty good mineralization there that should be
13 used and I think it should be left so we can use those things.
14 The time we need our resources is now when you're ready to eat.
15 It's not a year from now or ten years from now or fence off and
16 don't use it.

17 This morning's Spokesman Review told about silver,
18 particularly in 1982 I think the United States used something
19 like one hundred forty-four million ounces of silver and they
20 produced only thirty-eight million ounces. That leaves quite a
21 balance that was shipped in. There was a balance of payment
22 owing part of a trillion or two trillion dollar indebtedness.

23 But specially coming back to this everything all
24 living, everything basic that we have comes directly from the
25 ground and it doesn't make a difference about whether it's a

1 farmer raising food, loggers raising trees or building homes,
2 or whether it's miners getting stuff out of the ground.
3 Basically, all living comes directly from the ground and those
4 that aren't getting it directly from the ground are parasites
5 that are living off from those. I kind of wonder how many
6 people that are supporting tying this all up as wilderness are
7 those that are not getting theirs direct from the ground. It
8 kind of seems to me those loggers that got it from the ground
9 weren't very interested in keeping that so they could use it.

10 To go back to Mother Nature, the area up in there
11 isn't the delicate thing that the people talk about. Mother
12 Nature recycles. The mines that were run prior to World War II,
13 you go up to the portals here and you can't hardly find the
14 portals or the tailings piles. You go to Dunn Creek where
15 they've logged this off and on ever since they started a
16 sustained yield in 1939 and it's beautiful in there, and the
17 Ten Lakes could be maintained the same way. I say let's use
18 our resources. I thank you.

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: That's all the list of names I have
20 of people who registered to make a statement. Is there anyone
21 else here at this time who would like to come up and make a
22 statement? Well, I'll give the people here a chance to think
23 over what's been said and decide whether they want to make one
24 later, and give a chance for some other people to come. What
25 we'll do is recess until 3:30 and then we'll reconvene and see

1 if other people have shown up. Thank you.

2 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 3:00 p.m. and
3 subsequently reconvened at 3:30 p.m., and the following
4 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

5 HEARINGS OFFICER: For the purpose of the record, we
6 reconvened at 3:30 with no one present so we are recessing
7 until four o'clock.

8 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 3:35 p.m. and
9 subsequently reconvened at 4:00 p.m., and the following
10 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

11 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, we're going to reconvene
12 again at four o'clock to see if any other persons come in that
13 might want to testify in the hearing relative to the Ten Lakes
14 Wilderness Study Area Proposal by the Forest Service. I see we
15 have a couple of people who have turned out. Do either of you
16 want to make a statement for the record?

17 MS. NEWCOMER: No.

18 MR. DECKER: I'm not familiar with what they're taking
19 about yet.

20 HEARINGS OFFICER: We'll give you a chance to look at
21 it and maybe you'll want to make one. I think we'll wait for a
22 while and give you a chance to see if you want to make a
23 statement and if you don't, we'll just recess until this
24 evening, so we'll just wait a few minutes and see.

25 (Discussion held off the record.)

1 HEARINGS OFFICER: Back on the record. It's 4:10 and
2 we have a person who wants to make a statement.

3 MR. DECKER: My name is Ned E. Decker. I live in
4 Libby, Route 2, Box 577. I've lived in the Eureka area for a
5 number of years, last twenty-some years. I'm very familiar
6 with the area you're talking about. I agree with the Forest
7 Service position on their scenic area. I don't think we need a
8 wilderness designation. I have snowmobiled in there in the
9 winter and it's very beautiful. Without that access to it,
10 it's almost impossible to get in there, in and out, without
11 endangering other things involved, with very little or no
12 damage to the country. I am much in favor of what the Forest
13 Service has planned as their scenic area. Thank you.

14 HEARINGS OFFICER: Ma'am, did you want to make a
15 statement?

16 MS. NEWCOMER: No, I don't think so.

17 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Off the record.

18 (Discussion held off the record.)

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, we'll recess until 4:30
20 and then see if anybody else turns up. If not, we'll just come
21 back this evening.

22 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 4:10 p.m. and
23 subsequently reconvened at 4:30 p.m., and the following
24 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: We'll go back on the record. We

1 recessed at 4:10 until 4:30 and it's now 4:30 and no one has
2 arrived at the hearing room that wishes to make a statement.
3 There appearing to be no indication that anyone else plans to
4 attend this afternoon, we will now be in recess until 7:00 this
5 evening.

6 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 4:31 p.m. and
7 subsequently reconvened at 7:00 p.m., and the following
8 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

9 HEARINGS OFFICER: It's 7:00 and I think we'll
10 reconvene this hearing. This session of the hearing was
11 convened this afternoon at 2:00 at the Venture Inn at Libby and
12 was recessed at 4:30 until 7:00 this evening.

13 This hearing has been called for the purpose of
14 considering the results of the Forest Service's studies
15 relative to the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. I'm
16 going to briefly go over the background for the hearing for the
17 benefit of those who are in attendance this evening.

18 On November 1st, 1977, Congress passed the Montana
19 Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150. The Act requires a
20 Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations to
21 Congress on the wilderness suitability of nine separate
22 national forest areas in Montana containing nine hundred
23 seventy-three thousand acres.

24 Two of the nine areas, Mount Henry and Ten Lakes, are
25 on the Kootenai National Forest. The Ten Lakes Montana

1 Wilderness Study Act Area, an area thirty-five thousand nine
2 hundred acres, was analyzed as part of the Kootenai Forest
3 planning process. A map of the Ten Lakes Area and its environs,
4 as well as the maps of the alternatives analyzed by the Forest
5 Service, are displayed on the map on the wall in this room, to
6 my right.

7 This hearing session this afternoon as well as the one
8 this evening, along with the one yesterday at Eureka, as well
9 as the session to be held tomorrow at Kalispell, are being held
10 to consider the results of the Forest Service study relative to
11 the Ten Lakes Area.

12 I've been designated as the presiding officer at this
13 hearing. My name is Lawrence M. Jakub. I am the attorney in
14 charge for the Office of General Counsel for the United States
15 Department of Agriculture located at Missoula, Montana.

16 A few words about the procedure which we've been
17 following in the hearing for the benefit of those this evening:
18 The hearing is not a debate, a trial, or a question and answer
19 assembly. It's simply an opportunity for you to come forth and
20 submit your written statements or give an oral statement or
21 other information relative to the matters named in the notice
22 for consideration by the Regional Forester relative to the Ten
23 Lakes Area. Your statement will not be taken under oath.
24 However, if you wish to come to make a statement and express
25 your views, you should come to the front of the room and state

1 your name, your address and whom you represent, if anyone, and
2 the nature of your interest in the matter. You will be
3 speaking at the microphone at the podium where I am standing.
4 Try and speak slowly and distinctly so that the reporter to my
5 right can record your complete statement. I'm not going to set
6 a time limitation for each speaker.

7 In lieu of making an oral statement, you may file a
8 written statement discussing the results of this study.
9 Written statements submitted during the hearing will be
10 available for your review at any time you might wish to see
11 them. To accommodate those who have not prepared written
12 statements but who desire to submit them or other material
13 relevant to this proceeding, the record will be kept open until
14 March 1st of this year. Written statements submitted prior to
15 March 1st will become part of the official hearing record.
16 Your statements should be sent to the Forest Supervisor of the
17 Kootenai National Forest here at Libby. All information
18 received at this hearing as well as any of those written
19 statements that you submit prior to March 1st will all become
20 part of the written record and receive the same consideration.

21 All the information at this hearing will be recorded
22 and a transcript prepared by the reporter after the hearing. A
23 completed transcript will be open to the public for inspection
24 at the offices of the Regional Forester at Missoula, as well as
25 the Forest Supervisor's Office here at Libby. Anyone desiring

1 a copy of the transcript should make arrangements with the
2 reporter to obtain one.

3 Now, we've asked people who wish to testify to
4 register at the desk as you enter the room so if there are any
5 of those persons who have been registered, I will call on them
6 first. Do we have any? All right. Following the persons who
7 have registered, I'll ask for anyone else who would care to
8 make a statement. The first person that I have named is Pat
9 Connell.

10 MR. CONNELL: My name is Patrick Connell. My address
11 is Route 2, Box 62, Libby. I appreciate this opportunity to
12 express my viewpoints on the Ten Lake Wilderness Study Area. I
13 have some written comments that I will submit in addition to
14 these oral comments. It's rather interesting looking at the
15 Ten Lakes Area. Having lived in Northwestern Montana for
16 several years and being familiar with the area, I have to say
17 that there is some very good wilderness potential in areas.
18 There is significantly more recreational potential throughout
19 the entire area that is not necessarily tied directly with the
20 legal description of wilderness. I think that that is what the
21 problem is that concerns an awful lot of us here. I might
22 mention that my comments are my own, period. Although I work
23 in the woods industry, no one that I've worked for has
24 discussed this matter with me, has encouraged us to come attend
25 this hearing, or to even give testimony, so this is my own

1 consideration and interest in the area.

2 If you look at the map of Ten Lakes, you'll see that,
3 using a political term, it's a rather gerrymandered area. My
4 concern is partially because of this gerrymandering.. The
5 impact that has historically followed wilderness
6 classifications within surrounding areas could be widely
7 encompassing what is specifically limited to the Wilderness
8 Study Area for the Ten Lakes. A concern for buffer strips,
9 limited user entry because of heavy impacted areas of entry,
10 that would all be of high concern to me if I was wanting to
11 travel in the Ten Lakes Area for wilderness experience.

12 Certainly to date there has been, there has been a
13 great deal of recreational use in the area. That recreational
14 use has not been limited solely to backpacking or other types
15 of recreation that is in agreement to the legal definition of
16 wilderness. I find that it's very difficult to support or
17 encourage wilderness classification of an area that has had
18 historical use of recreational activity that for Northwestern
19 Montana is rather heavy during the winter, which such
20 recreational activity could be in direct juxtaposition to legal
21 wilderness acceptable recreational usage.

22 I have heard comments that motorized winter travel,
23 snowmobiles if you will, could possibly be allowed in this one
24 wilderness if such area was considered for wilderness. I would
25 submit that colleagues that I know that support wilderness

1 classification for this area would be risking their position in
2 other areas if they suggested that. It would be a dangerous
3 precedent for their position, and I support and I believe that
4 such a comment would be naive on snowmobilers' parts if they
5 feel that support of a wilderness classification except for the
6 use of winter snowmobile recreation, I don't think -- I don't
7 believe that that could occur.

8 If you look also in the Ten Lakes Study Area --
9 Wilderness Study Act Area data that is available to us tonight,
10 you'll also notice plates giving pictorial views of the Ten
11 Lakes Area; significant activity of general kinds. We have
12 roads, we have timber operations directly to the boundary of
13 the Ten Lakes Study Area. This would support a contention that
14 this area has in the past -- the general area has in the past
15 supported active timber management operations. I am not, by
16 stating that, indicating that much of the area within the Study
17 Area itself would be viable timber producing area. Areas
18 specific within the general area could, but other areas would
19 not.

20 A legal classification of wilderness would affect
21 specific areas within the Study Area preventing activities
22 other than nonmechanized recreation, and other activities that
23 would be allowed within the general Wilderness Act that has
24 been the law of the land for some many years now. It is my
25 belief, and I'll close, that the Forest Service's proposed

1 alternative of not recommending wilderness classification, but.
2 maintaining, per se, an administrative primitive area
3 management for acres within the Study Area would protect the
4 critical, pristine areas that we all recognize has high value
5 for recreation, but it would not limit the uses that we also
6 share in other places of the Ten Lakes, recreation or economic,
7 that we don't wish to lose at this time. Thank you.

8 HEARINGS OFFICER: Is there anyone else who would like
9 to come forward to make a statement? Is there anyone in
10 attendance who would like to come forward and make a statement
11 at this time? What I think we'll do is we'll take a ten minute
12 recess and give you time to make a statement in light of what's
13 been said and give a chance for some other people to come. So
14 we'll take a ten minute recess until 7:25 and then we'll
15 reconvene.

16 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 7:15 p.m. and
17 subsequently reconvened at 7:25 p.m., and the following
18 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: It's 7:25 so we're going to
20 reconvene again. Is there anyone here who wants to come up and
21 make a statement? All right. What I'm going to do is just
22 keep the hearing open and just be here probably up until at
23 least 8:00 and if anybody comes in and wants to make a
24 statement, we'll let them. At 8:00 we'll assess the situation
25 and see whether we should continue to remain here or not. I'm

1 not going to formally recess; I'm just going to go off the
2 record and we'll just wait to see what happens.

3 (Discussion held off the record.)

4 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, we'll go back on the
5 record again. We have a gentleman here who wants to make a
6 statement relative to the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Proposal
7 by the Forest Service, so why don't you come forward to the
8 podium here and state your name and your address and whom you
9 represent, if anyone, other than yourself.

10 MR. MANSKI: I'm Jack Manski and my address is Route 2,
11 Box 751F, Libby and I also represent the Libby Snowmobile Club.
12 I've ridden in this Ten Lakes Area many times and it's a
13 super-nice area and I would just like to see it stay open for
14 that purpose. That's about it.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: Does anyone else here want to make
16 a statement now? All right, we'll go off the record again.

17 (Discussion held off the record.)

18 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, we'll go back on the
19 record. This hearing having convened at 7:00 tonight, the last
20 statement taken was about 7:30, with no one indicating a desire
21 to make a statement since about 7:30 and there being no
22 attendants in the room since about 8:00, I am recessing the
23 hearing now until 2:00 tomorrow at Kalispell at the Outlaw Inn.

24 (Hearing concluded at 8:15 p.m.)
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF MONTANA)
 : ss.
County of Missoula)

I, Melody Jeffries, RPR, Official-Freelance Court Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula, Montana, do hereby certify:

That I was duly authorized to and did report the testimony and evidence in the above-entitled cause;

I further certify that the foregoing pages of this transcript represent a true and accurate transcription of my stenotype notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on this the 24th day of January, 1983.

Melody Jeffries
Melody Jeffries, RPR
Official-Freelance Court Reporter
State of Montana, Residing in
Missoula, Montana.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 26th
day of January, 1983.

Mary W. Dunn
NOTARY PUBLIC FOR THE STATE OF MONTANA
Residing in Missoula, Montana.
My Commission expires 04/07/85

Route 2 Box 62
Libby, MT 59923

17 January 1983

Kootenai Nat'l Forest
Supervisor's Office
Libby, MT 59923

Sirs:

This letter is regarding my feelings over the proposal for managing the area known as "Ten Lakes".

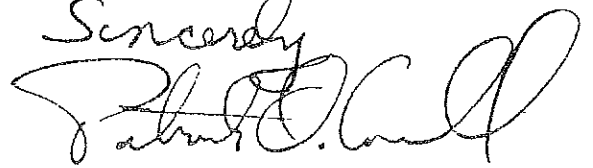
Anyone who has visited the area will not deny its qualities for recreational potential. What is highly offensive to me is that "recreational potential" can only be protected by Wilderness Classification. While this is what the extremist preservationists attempt to foster on the general public, it is NOT the case, and such gross inferences do not help the disposition of the area in question.

To discuss the ten lakes area uncovers a rather surprising realization: it isn't recreationists who want wilderness, but some sort of "lock up artists" that will abandon any rhetorical justification such as recreational potential to maintain some elusive vision of a natural; and acceptable to them, playground. Now the protectionists choose to ignore, as I do not, the established winter motorized recreational use in the area that to date has not altered the character of the area.

Now I am not a snow-mobilist; in fact my family and I do cross country ski and do not

of this area need be as designated wilderness, rather, an administrative designation of "primitive" without the associated limitations of wilderness as defined in the Wilderness Act. I believe the USFS capable of administering a primitive area without Congress's heavy hand being involved; moreover, the associated repercussions of a designated wilderness: i.e., buffer zones, user wilderness experience, can be avoided.

My position is to avoid legal wilderness, just administer said reasonable areas as de facto wilderness under administrative jurisdiction

Sincerely

Patrick O. Connell

STATEMENT OF
KEITH I. ENGBRETSON
CHAMPION INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

BEFORE THE
U.S.D.A. FOREST SERVICE, REGION 1

ON THE
FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF
TEN LAKES STUDY AREA (MWSA)

JANUARY 18, 1983

MY NAME IS KEITH ENGBRETSON. I AM THE DISTRICT LAND MANAGER FOR CHAMPION TIMBERLANDS PLEASANT VALLEY DISTRICT AT MARION, MONTANA. CHAMPION INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION MANAGES 682,000 ACRES OF TIMBERLANDS IN WESTERN MONTANA. IT OPERATES A TOTAL OF 11 MILES AND PLANTS IN MONTANA AND IDAHO.

CHAMPION SUPPORTS AND RECOMMENDS THE ADOPTION OF THE "PROPOSED ACTION" ALTERNATIVE OF THE TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA. THE "PROPOSED ACTION" ALTERNATIVE OF THE KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CALLS FOR A NONWILDERNESS CLASSIFICATION. CHAMPION AGREES WITH THIS BECAUSE, FIRST, THERE IS ADEQUATE LEGISLATED WILDERNESS IN THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS SYSTEM. PRESENTLY, 1.7 MILLION ACRES IS WITHIN 150 AIR MILES AND 0.4 MILLION ACRES IS WITHIN 100 AIR MILES OF THE STUDY AREA. SECOND TEN LAKES DOES NOT LEND ITSELF TO A HIGH OPPORTUNITY FOR SOLITUDE. THIS IS DUE TO THE AREAS IRREGULAR CONFIGURATION AND, EXISTING ROADS AND PREVIOUS LOGGING ACTIVITY ADJACENT TO THE STUDY AREA.

THE TEN LAKES STUDY AREA HAS PROVIDED A DIVERSITY OF OTHER USES AS WELL AS TIMBER PRODUCTION ADDING TO THE STABILITY OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY. RECREATION USE IS OF THE NONMOTORIZED FORM OF DISPERSED RECREATION, INCLUDING HIKING, NATURE STUDY, CAMPING, HORSEBACK RIDING, HUNTING AND FISHING. SNOWMOBILING HAS ALSO BEEN PERMITTED SINCE 1976 AND IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE. AS STATED IN THE DEIS, TOTAL VISITOR USE HAS INCREASED 45% FROM 9,200 VISITOR DAYS IN 1976 TO 16,700 VISITOR DAYS IN 1981. THESE USES PROVIDE A MORE BALANCED LOCAL ECONOMIC BASE. BY NARROWING

THE ECONOMIC BASE WITH THE INCLUSION OF THE STUDY AREA INTO WILDERNESS, EITHER TOTALLY OR PARTIALLY, PLACES INSECURITY ON THE LOCAL ECONOMIC STABILITY.

CHAMPION'S PULP AND PAPER MILL DEPENDS HEAVILY UPON RAW MATERIALS GENERATED FROM THE MILLS IN THE VICINITY OF THE TEN LAKES AREA. THE FRENCHTOWN PULP MILL PRODUCES 500,000 TONS OF FINISHED PRODUCT ANNUALLY AND EMPLOYS 700 PEOPLE. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS GOAL IT REQUIRES 10% ROUNDWOOD AND 90% WASTEWOOD IN THE FORM OF WOOD CHIPS AND SAWDUST. THE LOCAL MILLS, AMERICAN TIMBER CO., KASANKA LUMBER CO., AND THE OWENS AND HURST LUMBER CO. PROVIDE ONE-THIRD OF THE REQUIRED WASTEWOOD NEEDS FOR THE FRENCHTOWN MILL. CURRENTLY, THE KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST ACCOUNTS FOR APPROXIMATELY 60% OF THE LOCAL MILLS ROUNDWOOD USEAGE. BY REDUCING THE FEDERAL TIMBER LANDBASE, IT WOULD ADD TO THE ALREADY DWINDLING TIMBER SUPPLY. THEREFORE, CHAMPION'S CONCERN IS IN MAINTAINING THE TIMBER LANDBASE IN ORDER TO MEET PRESENT AND FUTURE WOOD PRODUCT DEMANDS. THANK YOU.

1027 No. Jackson
Helena, MT, 59601
January 16, 1983

Mr Bill Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai Nat'l Forest
Libby, MT 59923
Dear Mr Morden:

I would like to go on record as supporting Alternative C for the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study area.

Northwest Montana has been an area of heavy timber harvest for many years. For this reason The Kootenai Forest has a lower percentage of wilderness designation than any other Forest in the state. There are fewer remaining areas left in a natural state suitable for grizzly bear habitat, non-motorized recreation & solitude. Even the Cabinet Mtn Wilderness has been so heavily impacted by mining that it can hardly be said to be still wilderness. Since the Ten Lakes area is one of only two areas left in the Kootenai Nat'l Forest under Wilderness study status it would truly be a shame to further subdivide this small area allowing much of it to be lost permanently to the public. The area should not be "locked up" by the timber harvest. The whole of this tiny remaining Northwest Montana Wilderness should receive protection under Alternative C.

Thank you for your consideration

Ellen H. Arguimbau
(Ellen H. Arguimbau)

MONTANA MAGAZINE

P.O. Box 5630 • 2220 N. COOKE, HELENA, MT 59604 • Phone 406/443-2842

January 13, 1983


Bill Morden
Forest Supervisor
Kootenai National Forest
Box AS
Libby, Montana 59923

Dear Mr. Morden,

I wish to go on record as supporting a 35,000 acre wilderness for the Ten Lakes area. There are very few opportunities for wilderness left in northwest Montana and it would be a misuse of the land to designate anything less than wilderness.

Snowmobiling and other motorized interests have far more land than they need to pursue their activities. Non-motorized recreation, and in particular wilderness recreation, is a faster growing activity and yet there are less and less acres available.

Sincerely,



Rick Graetz
Publisher

RG/pr

(406) 293-6985

ALFRED E. "Bud" JOURNEY

ROUTE 2 BOX 250
LIBBY, MONTANA 59923



January 18, 1963

COMMENTS FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TEN LAKES WILDERNESS AREA

I can't believe that I'm here defending the appropriateness of the Ten Lakes Area as wilderness. There is so pitiful little of this country that is wilderness that it is preposterous that we don't jump at the opportunity to include this area in the nation's wilderness system.

A person need only take out a map and look at the paltry amount of this 2½ million acre forest, that is wilderness, to see the crying need for more wilderness. If all of the Ten Lakes Area and all the Scotchman Peaks Area and all the proposed additions to the Cabinet Wilderness is combined with the existing Cabinet Wilderness, the total acreage would be less than 10% of the Kootenai National Forest.

That's pretty pathetic when you look at the rapidly growing demand for a rapidly decreasing ~~an~~ resource -- roadless recreation. The proposed forest plan admits that demand, for roadless recreation, will exceed supply within forty years. That's a pretty questionable prediction when you look at the increase in demand in other parts of the country. There are already use restrictions in some national parks and ~~for~~ wildernesses in other states, as well as on some rivers. The heavily used Cabinet Mountain Wilderness Area is a prime candidate for use restrictions in the near future. It's inevitable; there simply isn't enough space for the demands that will be put on it.

It's already difficult or impossible for outfitters to get some types of ~~hunting~~ use permits in the Kootenai National Forest, because of development that has already occurred. That is only one symptom of increasing use conflicts. What is needed is more wilderness and nonmotorized recreational opportunities -- ~~hunting~~ not less. Incidentally, the forest points out this projected shortfall in roadless recreation, but proposes no remedy for ~~it~~ the problem.

I support motorized recreation on public lands. I think the right to drive cars, four wheel drive vehicles, motorcycles, snowmobiles, and ~~other recreational contraptions~~ ^{other recreational vehicles} ~~whatever other contraption people design for fun~~ should be protected. I use them myself.

However, to deny wilderness designation in Ten Lakes because of snowmobiles or motorcycles is ridiculous. There are 6000 miles of roads already on this forest and there will eventually be about 12000 miles if the engineers have their way. Even with the maximum number of road closures, there will still be over 7500 miles of open roads. With all those miles of roads to run around on, ~~is~~ is it necessary to xx sacrifice the Ten Lakes Wilderness so a very limited number of people can scoot around there in the winter on snowmobiles?

It really is pathetic that we have to ^{go} through this rigimorole to defend the Ten Lakes Area as wilderness. What should be on trial, here, is the Kootenai National Forest's plan to tree farm the other 90% of the forest.

I am not happy with the meager ~~\$5~~ 35,900 acres offered as wilderness in Plan C. To have to go begging hat-in-hand for such a paltry sum of wilderness outrages my sense of propriety, but it seems to be the best option offered by the forest service, so I support Alternative C.

1 UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

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3
4
5 COPY
6

7
8 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

9 FOR THE KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST PROPOSAL FOR
10 TEN LAKES MONTANA WILDERNESS STUDY ACT AREA (PL 95-150)
11

12
13
14 PUBLIC HEARING

15 Taken at the Outlaw Inn
16 Kalispell, Montana
17 Wednesday, January 19, 1983 - 2:00 p.m.
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24 Reported by Melody Jeffries, Official-Freelance Court
25 Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula,
Montana.

I N D E X

HEARINGS OFFICER: LAWRENCE M. JAKUB

U.S. FOREST SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES:

PAUL LEIMBACH, Forest Supervisor's Office

TIM O'GORMAN, Forest Supervisor's Office

GARY MORGAN, Forest Supervisor's Office

Introduction and Meeting Objectives. . Lawrence M. Jakub. . . 3

SPEAKERS:

CAROL FREE, 2196 Mission Trail Kalispell. 7

BUD CLINCH, Montana Logging Association, Kalispell. 8

RICHARD KUHL, 867 North Main, Kalispell 11

TOM HIRLOCK, 417 Third Street West, Kalispell 17

JOHN GATCHEL, Flathead Chapter Territory of Montana
Wilderness Association. 21

JOHN FREE, 2216 Mission Trail, Kalispell. 26

MIKE FREE, 2196 Mission Trail, Kalispell. 29

DALE BURK, 295 Kootenai Creek, Stevensville 30

WAYNE HERMAN, 573 Second Avenue North, Kalispell. 45

JAMES R. CONNER, 78 Konley Drive, Kalispell 46

Certificate of Court Reporter 53

1 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1983

2 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were had and
3 entered of record.)

4 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, it's two o'clock so I think
5 we probably ought to get started. I'm going to reconvene the
6 hearing relative to the Ten Lakes Wilderness Study Area as
7 proposed by the Forest Service and for the benefit of those of
8 you who are here, I'm going to go through how the hearing will
9 proceed and give you a little bit of background of the hearing
10 for your benefit. This hearing has been called for the purpose
11 of considering results of the Forest Service's study concerning
12 the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area.

13 On November 1st of 1977, Congress passed the Montana
14 Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150. The Act requires the
15 Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations to
16 Congress on the wilderness suitability of nine separate
17 national forest areas in Montana containing nine hundred
18 seventy-three thousand acres.

19 Two of the nine areas, Mount Henry and Ten Lakes, are
20 on the Kootenai National Forest. Mount Henry, twenty-three
21 thousand four hundred acres in size, was addressed in a
22 regional report and proposal along with two other study areas
23 in Montana, the Taylor-Hilgard and the West Pioneer Montana
24 Wilderness Study Areas. The Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Act
25 Area, an area thirty-five thousand nine hundred acres, was

1 analyzed at part of the Kootenai National Forest planning
2 process. A map of the Ten Lakes Area and its environs, as well
3 as maps of the alternatives analyzed, are displayed in this
4 room to my left, on the wall.

5 This hearing session, the one yesterday at Libby, as
6 well as the one on Monday, January 17th, at Eureka, are being
7 held to consider the results of the Forest Service's study
8 relative to this Ten Lakes Area.

9 In accordance with the public notice, this hearing is
10 reconvened and opened today, January 19th, 1983, at two p.m. at
11 the Outlaw Inn at Kalispell, Montana. I've been designated as
12 the presiding officer for the hearing. My name is Lawrence M.
13 Jakub and I am the attorney in charge with the U.S. Department
14 of Agriculture, Office of General Counsel, located at Missoula,
15 Montana.

16 A few words about the procedure which will be followed.
17 This hearing is not a debate, a trial, or a question and answer
18 assembly, but it's merely an advisory hearing wherein
19 interested persons can come forward and provide oral statements
20 or other information relative to the matters named in the
21 notice for the hearing. A statement of interested parties will
22 not be taken under oath, but each person desiring to express
23 his views should come to the front of the room and state your
24 name and address and whom you represent, if anyone, and state
25 your interest in the matter. You'll be speaking here at the

1 at the microphone where I am presently standing.

2 When giving your statement, you should speak slowly
3 and distinctly so that the reporter to my right can get a
4 complete record. I'm not going to set a time limitation for
5 each speaker.

6 In lieu of making an oral statement, you may file
7 written statements discussing the results of the study.
8 Written statements taken or submitted during this hearing which
9 are not read into the record may be reviewed by anyone at any
10 time. To accommodate those who have not prepared written
11 statements and desire to do so, you may submit them up to and
12 including March 1st, 1983. The record will be kept open until
13 that date. Written statements submitted prior to March 1st
14 will be made a part of the official hearing record, the same as
15 when oral testimony is given at this hearing. These statements
16 should be sent to the Forest Supervisor at Libby, Montana, Post
17 Office Box AS, zip 59923.

18 All information received at this hearing will be
19 recorded and a transcript prepared by the reporter after the
20 hearing. The completed transcript will be open to the public
21 for inspection at the office of the Regional Forester at
22 Missoula or the Kootenai Forest Supervisor at Libby.

23 Anyone desiring a copy of the transcript should make
24 arrangements with the reporter to obtain one.

25 Now, people have written in or as you came in the door

1 to this room you may desire to make a statement. If so, you
2 may have been asked to register, so I'll start with those
3 persons who are registered, if there are any. Do you have any
4 people registered?

5 MR. LEIMBACH: We have a Mr. Dale Burk. I don't know
6 if he's here yet.

7 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, I'll just go on to
8 anyone who happens to be present that would care to make a
9 statement at this time who hasn't registered. Is there anyone
10 here who would like to come forward to make a statement? Okay,
11 if not, I guess what we'll have to do is we'll just wait. I'm
12 going to hold the hearing open and we'll just go off the record
13 and any of you who might want to make a statement, indicate so
14 and you'll have an opportunity to do so, or we'll just wait for
15 people to come in and make statements if they would like, so
16 we'll go off the record.

17 (Discussion held off the record.)

18 HEARINGS OFFICER: Back on the record for a minute. I
19 might ask that if, during our little recess here anyone has
20 decided they want to make a statement, if so, feel free to come
21 up and go to it. If not, we'll just go off the record again
22 and wait and see if somebody wants to or comes in and wants to.
23 I don't know how long we'll wait, but we'll be here for a while.

24 (Discussion held off the record.)

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: Why don't we go back on the record

1 here for a minute. All right, we have one lady who would like
2 to make a statement. Please state your name and your address
3 and whom you represent, ma'am. Why don't you come up here to
4 the microphone.

5 MS. FREE: This one, okay. Hi, I'm Carol Free,
6 F-R-E-E, from Kalispell, 2196 Mission Trail. I would like to
7 go on record as being in favor of the Proposed Action of the
8 Forest Service in keeping the Therriault Lakes area and the Ten
9 Lakes Scenic Area as a roadless recreation area, rather than
10 putting it into a formal wilderness category. Would you like
11 more?

12 HEARINGS OFFICER: It's up to you.

13 MS. FREE: That's what I want to go on record as
14 saying.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. There being no one else
16 this afternoon wishing to indicate an interest to make a
17 statement and we've been open for statements since two o'clock,
18 it's now about 3:05, no other persons in attendance, other than
19 the one that just made the statement, we're going to recess
20 until four o'clock.

21 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 3:05 p.m. and
22 subsequently reconvened at 4:00 p.m., and the following
23 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

24 HEARINGS OFFICER: Well, we'll go back on the record.
25 We've been in recess since three o'clock or 3:05 to give people

1 an opportunity to come, that might want to testify at the
2 hearing relative to the Ten Lakes Study Proposal by the Forest
3 Service. It's now 4:03 and we'll go back on the record. Is
4 there anyone here that would like to come up and make a
5 statement at this time? All right, why don't you come forward
6 and state your name and your address and whom you represent.

7 MR. CLINCH: To the mike?

8 HEARINGS OFFICER: Right, up to the microphone.

9 MR. CLINCH: Yes, my name is Bud Clinch and I
10 represent the Montana Logging Association here in Kalispell and
11 our Association would like it entered on the record as
12 supporting the Proposed Action Alternative, the nonwilderness
13 designation, in accordance with the recommendations as set
14 forth by the Forest Service, and that's all. Thank you.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, fine. Let's go off the
16 record.

17 (Discussion held off the record.)

18 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, back on record. It's
19 4:05 and there being no one else in attendance that either
20 wants to make a statement or otherwise, we're now going to
21 recess until seven o'clock this evening.

22 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 4:05 p.m. and
23 subsequently reconvened at 7:05 p.m., and the following
24 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right, it's a little bit after

1 seven o'clock so I think we'll get started. I'm going to
2 reconvene this hearing session which was recessed at 4:05 this
3 afternoon.

4 This hearing has been called for the purpose of
5 considering results of the Forest Service's studies relative to
6 the Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Area. To be sure that
7 those in attendance are familiar with the nature and purpose of
8 the hearing, I will briefly review the background for this
9 hearing session this evening.

10 On November 1st of 1977, Congress passed the Montana
11 Wilderness Study Act, Public Law 95-150. The Act requires the
12 Secretary of Agriculture to study and make recommendations to
13 Congress on the wilderness suitability of nine separate
14 national forest areas in Montana containing nine hundred
15 seventy-three thousand acres.

16 Two of the areas, Mount Henry and Ten Lakes, are
17 located on the Kootenai National Forest. Mount Henry, which is
18 twenty-three thousand four hundred acres in size, was addressed
19 in a regional report and proposal along with two other study
20 areas in Montana, the Taylor-Hilgard and West Pioneer Montana
21 Wilderness Study Areas. The Ten Lakes Montana Wilderness Study
22 Act Area, an area of thirty-five nine hundred acres, was
23 analyzed as part of the Kootenai Forest planning process. A
24 map of the Ten Lakes Area and its environs, as well as maps of
25 the alternatives analyzed, are displayed in this room on the

1 wall to my left.

2 This hearing session, the one yesterday at Libby, as
3 well as the session at Eureka on January 17th, are being held
4 to consider the results of the Forest Service's study. This
5 evening's session will be the final session for those hearings.

6 I've been designated as presiding officer of this
7 hearing. My name is Lawrence M. Jakub and I'm the attorney in
8 charge with the Office of General Counsel for the U.S.
9 Department of Agriculture located at Missoula, Montana.

10 I'm going to briefly review the procedure which we
11 will be following this evening. This hearing is not a debate,
12 a trial, or a question and answer assembly, but an advisory
13 hearing wherein interested persons may present written or oral
14 statements relative to the matters named in the notice to this
15 hearing. The statement of interested parties will not be taken
16 under oath, but each person desiring to express their views
17 should come to the front of the room and state your name and
18 address and whom you represent, if anyone, and the nature of
19 your interest in the matter. You'll be speaking in the
20 microphone where I'm standing at the podium in the front of the
21 room.

22 When giving your statements, speak slowly and clearly
23 so that the reporter can record your complete statement. I'm
24 not going to set any limitation of time for each individual
25 speaker.

1 In lieu of making an oral statement, interested
2 persons may file written statements discussing the results of
3 the study. To accommodate those who desire to submit written
4 statements, the record will be kept open until March 1st of
5 this year. Written statements or other material submitted
6 prior to March 1st will become a part of the official hearing
7 record. These statements should be sent to the Forest
8 Supervisor of the Kootenai National Forest, Post Office Box AS,
9 Libby, Montana.

10 All information received at this hearing will be
11 recorded and a transcript prepared by the reporter after the
12 hearing. And the reporter is located to my right. The
13 completed transcript will be open to the public for inspection
14 at the offices of the Regional Forester at Missoula or at the
15 Kootenai Forest Headquarters Supervisor's Office at Libby.

16 Anyone desiring a copy of the transcript should make
17 arrangements with the reporter to obtain one.

18 Now, for the purpose of determining how many persons
19 desire to make a statement this evening, a register has been
20 located at the entrance to this room. And I will start by
21 calling upon those people to make a statement. The first
22 person on the list that I have is Richard Kuhl.

23 MR. KUHL: My name is Richard Kuhl. I live at 867
24 North Main in Kalispell, Montana. I will present written
25 comments on this proposal by March 1st, but I would like to

1 make a few general observations tonight.

2 First, I have a slight complaint against the summary
3 and the more detailed report and proposal in regards to the
4 pictures that are presented in those reports. Anybody who did
5 not know that area and did not read the fine script that goes
6 with those pictures would get the idea that those pictures in
7 the summary accurately represent the Ten Lakes Study Area. A
8 more accurate representation would be the other ten pictures on
9 the wall over there that did not get included in the written
10 report, and I think that's important because it discourages
11 people from outside the general area who are interested in
12 preserving the wilderness option, but who do not have exact
13 firsthand knowledge of this area from being enthused about the
14 area and that's -- They would get, by looking at the pictures
15 presented, they would get a very biased view of the area.

16 Second, I also question the rating system used to
17 evaluate this area's wilderness characteristics. On page 9 of
18 the summary it says, "The area rated high in naturalness and
19 natural integrity, but that opportunities for solitude were
20 limited in portions of the area because of existing roads and
21 previous logging activity adjacent to the area." Now, you
22 can't have it both ways.

23 The present Forest Service policy is that you will log
24 and do resource extraction right up to the edge of any existing
25 wilderness boundary so I fail to see why, if an existing

1 roadless area has roads up to that boundary, why that should,
2 why that should degrade the quality of that particular area
3 since they're all eventually going to have roads and
4 developments right up to the boundary, according to the Forest
5 Service policy. So it doesn't make sense to me that you can
6 automatically exclude an area and say it has less wilderness
7 qualities. My complaint is that if you took away that criteria,
8 the area would rate much, much higher in the wilderness quality
9 index that has been used.

10 Okay. I've been reading newspaper accounts and they
11 seem to indicate that many people are happy with the present
12 proposal because they think it's going to leave at least a core
13 area of eighteen thousand two hundred acres as is and, again, I
14 think the documents that we've been given to study are
15 misleading. Oil and gas leasing, salvage operations and FERC
16 developments, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, if there
17 are any in that area, or are proposed, would lead to road
18 developments in that area. Even the full document here on the
19 Study Area on D-1, in the appendix D, it says "Semi-primitive
20 nonmotorized recreation would still be open to surface
21 occupancy by oil and gas leasing restricted by location." So
22 my concern is that people might be getting a misconception of
23 what the present proposal is going to do. It's not -- it's no
24 guarantee that that area is going to be left as is. The only
25 thing that's going to prevent it in there is essentially

1 logging and grazing developments. But if the oil and gas folks
2 want to go in there, the area can be opened up and roads can be
3 punched into any area in there.

4 Salvage operations. It's a little unclear from the
5 documents just how that's going to work. Salvage operations
6 can be undertaken in the eighteen thousand acre plus
7 semi-primitive nonmotorized wilderness or recreation area, but
8 it's a little unclear whether they're going to do it by road or
9 cable logging or helicopter logging, but I suspect, given the
10 size of the timber up there, you're essentially prohibited to
11 do helicopter logging and cable logging up there and it would
12 almost require that if anybody wanted to do salvage logging or
13 insect control logging or anything of that type, it would mean
14 an excursion of roads inside the present proposal.

15 FERC developments are another thing and any time
16 somebody wants to put a claim through FERC, the claim is taken
17 out of Forest Service's responsibility and Federal Energy
18 Regulatory Commission would then develop that area as it sees
19 fit, as I understand it.

20 My main concern here is that people not be sold a bill
21 of goods that the present proposal is going to preserve that
22 area. I think it should be flatly stated in those proposals
23 that there is only one option that gives the area as full
24 protection as possible and that's the wilderness option; and to
25 pretend otherwise is not going only to lead to the ruination of

1 this area, but I think eventually it will lead to a lack of
2 credibility on the Forest Service's part.

3 And I also would like to emphasize that the areas, if
4 the present proposal goes through, the areas are only protected
5 at the discretion of the Regional Forester under the Forest
6 Service plan. It does not even get the designation of the
7 Secretary of Agriculture, like the Jewel Basin Area. That's
8 much less protection than a Congressional decision. I think
9 that's important because in the future if it's decided that
10 things can change up there, then I believe that Congress should
11 make that decision and it should not be based upon local needs
12 and desires.

13 I would like to quote from page 12. There's kind of
14 a misleading statement. I'm not sure -- This is page 12 of the
15 sample. It says, second paragraph, it said, "In addition, none
16 of the alternatives significantly provide opportunities for
17 handicapped people or significantly contribute to RPA goals
18 except wilderness which is discussed below." What that means
19 if you turn it around is that if the total area up there was
20 put into wilderness, it could be, national forest could meet
21 all its RPA goals for timber, motorized recreation, grazing, et
22 cetera, et cetera. And what it also means is that it would
23 help the Kootenai meet its RPA goals for wilderness and it's
24 the only alternative which does. So I think that that
25 paragraph should be rewritten and I think it should be made

1 clear to everybody because the way it's written now, people
2 cannot make a very informed decision.

3 I would like to make one, I guess, final comment and
4 that is the proposal in general does not weigh any national
5 need for wilderness, which is a shrinking resource, against the
6 It doesn't take that into consideration at all and what I'm
7 fearing is -- I'll be very blunt -- is that everybody
8 recognizes that area and there are few commodity resources that
9 would contribute to the economy and if Kootenai can meet its
10 RPA goals in other ways, that even bears my statements out. So
11 I think what's happening is we're getting into a fight between
12 snowmobilers and people who want to protect the area more fully.
13 So what I'm trying to say is this: That if those people who
14 want to keep the area as it is, but still have some form of
15 motorized recreation in it, if they realize that oil and gas
16 leasing can take that area away from them, if salvage area can
17 take that away from them, if FERC can take that area away from
18 them, at least as it is, they may not be so enthused about the
19 present proposal.

20 And I also am concerned -- And at the same time I
21 would hope that the national need for wilderness, which is a
22 shrinking resource, is not lost against the desires of people
23 presently using that area for their motorized vehicles. I
24 think we'll find that in the next fifty years that the
25 wilderness resource lands devoted to wilderness will increase

1 in value because there's going to be less and less of them. I
2 don't think it's too much when you're talking about this area.
3 I figured it out and I think it's one and a half percent in the
4 Kootenai Forest. That's not too much to ask to put into a
5 wilderness classification.

6 I'll give a more detailed representation in my written
7 comments and mention specific areas that I think should be
8 preserved in the wilderness study. Thank you.

9 HEARINGS OFFICER: Tom Hirlock.

10 MR. HIRLOCK: My name is Tom Hirlock. My address is
11 417 Third Street West in Kalispell. In talking, first I'll say
12 that my main thrust of what I have to say is to put this thing
13 in perspective, actually into a certain perspective, my own
14 perspective. The Kootenai Forest, we have to remember, is a
15 vast area. It is fully twice as large as Glacier Park. It is
16 really a vast forest. I, for my part, a number of years ago
17 found myself in Spokane at school and I started looking over
18 the Kootenai Forest and the remaining roadless country,
19 studying very carefully what the forest had in the way of
20 roadless lands and what they included, what it looked like they
21 would be leaving natural: Cabinet wilderness, Ten Lakes, Mount
22 Henry, numerous other areas, and I did a lot of looking
23 specifically at all the little chunks, I call them, mostly
24 scraps that they plan to leave natural. So I've hiked most the
25 trails and I've hiked in many of the roadless areas of the

1 Kootenai trying to put it into perspective of the whole forest.

2 The Kootenai Forest may be already, and certainly in
3 the near future, will be like no other forest in Montana. It
4 will be logged, logged and relogged, you might say. I'm not
5 objecting to some logging, but it's going to be developed so
6 totally as to be almost unbelievable in the State of Montana.
7 It's the sort of thing you might not be surprised at in a state
8 like Connecticut where you expect every acre to be developed,
9 but this forest is really going to be developed. It's hard to
10 believe.

11 The Forest Service has an overall thrust. It's seen
12 elsewhere in the forest in this area. They feel that they can,
13 or at least they tell us that they feel that they can, improve
14 for almost every benefit, whether it's preventing scenic
15 degradation, provide for the grizzly. They seem to think that
16 the one way to achieve just about every goal is to maintain the
17 vegetation; in other words, to take out trees; in other words,
18 to log. I would disagree with that. Again, not talking just
19 about Ten Lakes, but the surrounding area and the whole forest.

20 So, let's try to put it in perspective. What might
21 then remain in the Kootenai Valley portion of the Kootenai
22 Forest in twenty years or so, let's say? Well, we have the
23 Cabinet Wilderness. We have two types of areas: Wilderness,
24 primitive recreation areas. I combined semi-primitive and
25 primitive into one group for these purposes. I don't want to

1 get too complicated though. Cabinet Wilderness is threatened
2 by mining and, in fact, on the other hand, on its east face,
3 especially, there is a lot of primitive recreational lands
4 which might be more or less, you might say, added to the
5 wilderness making it a more substantial wilderness than it
6 seems to be now. Actually, it's a case of preventing some of
7 the roadless lands from disappearing. We're not really
8 creating wilderness, we're preventing the destruction of it.

9 Another area is the Scotchman area. It's the same
10 thing, essentially, as the Cabinets. Could be threatened by
11 logging. It isn't designated yet. We have a skinny wilderness.
12 We have a proposed wilderness. We have some other lands, like
13 over in the far northwest corner of the state, northwest peaks,
14 we have another Scenic Area in some ways, many ways, similar to
15 Ten Lakes, and that will, I guess, pretty much stay natural,
16 but some of it's already been logged. I don't know if
17 everybody is aware that some of that area has already been
18 developed.

19 Another look at another roadless area, McGregor, on
20 the south edge of the Kootenai, mostly on the Lolo, really.
21 Kootenai Forest is not going to leave any portion of that
22 roadless area roadless. Look over at Mount Henry, the other
23 S.393 Study Area that is going to be in the Forest Service plan,
24 mostly logged and, as an example, they'll leave the Mount Henry
25 Ridge skinny, little -- just skinny, little scraps. They don't

1 plan to leave much more than that. So, I'm emphasizing these
2 primitive recreation lands -- You might call them primitive
3 recreation scraps because so little of this forest is going to
4 be left natural the way things look now and, as I indicated,
5 the Cabinet Mountains vicinity is worth the naturalness that
6 will essentially remain in the Kootenai in the future. I don't
7 think that's enough of the forest to stay natural. It's a
8 doggone shame, to put it mildly. It's so little of such a vast
9 land. It should remain natural. It is not -- It is not a
10 private timber farm. It is, in fact, a national forest and
11 natural values are a very important part of the national forest.
12 You people know what natural values are. I'm sure all you
13 people have hiked. Some of you guys have hiked a lot more than
14 I have, maybe. Natural values like peace and quiet. The
15 ability to get away from the works of man, to get away, as much
16 as possible, from the works of man. You cannot entirely escape
17 the works of man, because jets are always going over and
18 airplanes and you can't get away from it all, but I try to get
19 away.

20 Another natural value that this area has is that they
21 remind us of what the forest was like, what the Kootenai Valley
22 was like before we came along with all our machinery. And the
23 Forest Service plan for Ten Lakes would leave essentially the
24 top of the ridges, the upper parts of the ridges, not the
25 timbered basins at all, to speak of, and that's a pity because

1 timber was everywhere in the Kootenai a few years ago. Wild
2 forests; it must have been -- It must have been really mind
3 boggling. To leave some of this alone would remind us somewhat
4 of what the old forest is like. I think that's really
5 important.

6 Another important value of leaving this area natural
7 would be that it provides for old species and pine martin and
8 there are many species that benefit from old growth timber and,
9 I hope nobody quotes me on this, but there's been some talk
10 about the caribou and the possibility the caribou could use it.
11 I'm not saying this area is important to the caribou because I
12 don't know. I don't know if anybody knows. I've heard nobody
13 knows, but if it is, I would love to see a caribou. I would
14 love to see a caribou more than fifty grizzlies. If this could
15 somehow contribute to us folks seeing another caribou in this
16 country, that would be fine. But old growth for the pine
17 martin and many other species is quite important.

18 So, I just conclude that we should leave the entire
19 area, the entire Study Area essentially and not just leave what
20 I would consider scraps that the Kootenai National Forest
21 thinks that we should leave. Thank you.

22 HEARINGS OFFICER: Tom Gatchel.

23 MR. GATCHEL: My handwriting is not very good. It's
24 John Gatchel, thank you. I would like to speak tonight for the
25 Flathead Chapter Territory of Montana Wilderness Association in

1 my volunteer capacity as chapter president. The Chapter Board
2 of Directors recently voted to wholeheartedly endorse
3 Alternative C, recommending wilderness classification for the
4 entire remaining wildland of Ten Lakes.

5 I would also like to clarify a few points about
6 wilderness, briefly. Wilderness provides protection for
7 watersheds, diverse opportunities for primitive recreation. It
8 provides unique educational opportunities of the scientific,
9 the historical or a personal-social nature. It may provide
10 grazing. Perhaps most valuable, it is a biological reserve, a
11 remnant of the wild America which stretched from sea to sea, as
12 the gentleman before me referred to a piece of the Kootenai
13 that's out there that was once the entire Kootenai Forest in a
14 wild state. Within this is a vast library of biological
15 information which has evolved over millions of years. It's a
16 last chance to conserve the diversity of our our wild gene pool.
17 This wild library or gene pool of information can and does
18 provide economic benefits, and that's regardless of whether a
19 person ever sets foot in such a wild area.

20 Wilderness is multiple use in the fullest sense and is
21 legally defined as such. It is land on which we confer, really,
22 the highest level of respect. And thus, we leave our machines
23 behind to travel and experience the land, essentially the same
24 way that Lewis and Clark, Teddy Roosevelt, Bob Marshall or
25 Winton Wedemeyer traveled across the landscape. There are no

1 tolls. No one is excluded. You need no expensive accessories.
2 Far from being locked up, wilderness is simply kept free of the
3 trappings of civilization, a dwindling resource of increasing
4 value as man extends his domination over the natural world.
5 More specifically I would like to point out, as has been
6 mentioned before, that Alternative C provides the best
7 opportunities to protect the diversity of the wildlife that we
8 now enjoy on the Ten Lakes, and this is particularly true of
9 sensitive species, such as the grizzly. Recently there have
10 been wolf tracks and other signs of wolf both on the Canadian
11 and on the U.S. side of the Wigwam River in the vicinity of the
12 Ten Lakes Area, and last May, May 18th and 19th, a set of
13 caribou tracks were found on the ridge between Wolverine Creek
14 and Bluebird Creek, and I failed to find anywhere in the
15 decision document that even mentioned the possibility of
16 caribou and how the preferred alternative may or may not affect
17 any potential recovery program, and I think that should have
18 been a part of the decision document.

19 I found interesting a story which appeared in
20 yesterday's Inter-Lake concerning Ten Lakes. Apparently some
21 participants in the Eureka hearings expressed a desire to keep
22 the area wild, but not in wilderness. Some specifically wished
23 to drive their snow machines inside the Ten Lakes wild area. I
24 think these people are sincere in their concern for the area,
25 no reason to doubt that, and I applaud their goal of keeping

1 Ten Lakes wild, but I wonder if those snow machines enthusiasts
2 have fully considered what may befall our Ten Lakes if we pass
3 up this opportunity to confer the highest level of respect, the
4 highest protection we have, wilderness designation, on the Ten
5 Lakes.

6 First on the horizon, as has been mentioned, the wild
7 area will be leased for oil and gas development. Outsiders,
8 such as Director Robert Burford, will be telling us what to do
9 with the land close to us, the Ten Lakes and, specifically, he
10 mentioned in December that any land not specifically withdrawn
11 by Congress will be leased, will be open to mineral entry. The
12 Congress has made it clear in this last session that only
13 wilderness will be withdrawn from development. Illustrating
14 this danger is the recent decision of the foresters to
15 recommend the leasing of the Jewel Basin and there was no
16 public discussion of this decision. And, as was mentioned
17 before, the Jewel Basin actually enjoys a slightly higher level
18 of protection. It's protected by the U regulations and the
19 Secretary of Agriculture.

20 I recall a discussion, sitting on the ridge just below
21 Poor Man Mountain, with the district ranger and several other
22 members of the Kootenai Forest three years ago in which I asked
23 them what the situation was on oil and gas, and someone
24 commented that the entire area was under lease complication and
25 that it was a damn shame that here was the last wild place in

1 their district and it seemed to be the area in which the oil
2 interests were most interested in, so I think it's important to
3 consider that and I think that those well-meaning folks who
4 just want the area to stay like it is are being railroaded if
5 they believe that the area will stay like it is without
6 wilderness designation.

7 Okay. Secondly, by allowing mechanical use within the
8 area, if this goes forth, we will have undermined whatever
9 chance there was to more fully protect the Ten Lakes by
10 restricted motorized access for seismic exploration drilling or
11 full scale development without roads, pipelines and, in the
12 event of sulphur and that sort of thing, which goes along with
13 oil and gas development. This has been undermined. The case
14 to deny seismic exploration in the Bob Marshall was credible
15 only because there was a consistent policy of nonmechanized use.

16 Okay, third, the alpine and sub-alpine areas and some
17 of the steep ridges will continue to be available for salvage
18 logging. This, despite lingering problems from past logging in
19 fragile and unsuitable areas, and I don't think there's many
20 people that can strongly claim that this area contains a lot of
21 suitable timberland within the presently designated area. More
22 importantly, it is a last pocket in the Kootenai of wild
23 country.

24 Okay, I guess the question is, is it wise to take this
25 last little pocket of wild country and gamble with its future

1 by passing up first-rate protection just so we can drive our
2 snow machines up the last mile and a half to Wolverine Cabin of
3 a twenty-some odd mile trip? If we agree to this, are we
4 really considering what's best for the future of this wild
5 enclave?

6 Aldo Leopold says, "Man always destroys the things he
7 loves and so we, the pioneers, have destroyed the wilderness.
8 Be that as it may, I'm glad that I shall never be young without
9 wild country to be young in. Of what avail are forty freedoms
10 without a few blank spots on the map?"

11 Let us leave this small corner of the Forest's
12 development maps blank, Congressionally protected as wilderness,
13 a remnant of the once wild Kootenai for generations to follow.
14 Thank you.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: John Free.

16 MR. FREE: My name is John Free. I live at 2216
17 Mission Trail, Kalispell. I speak in support of the Forest
18 Service proposal. I guess I do sympathize with the other
19 people that want wilderness, but I think there's some
20 limitation that wilderness places, in the sense of what I
21 understand some of these people when they describe wilderness,
22 and I think some of those limitations are access on a day-use
23 basis by the elderly families with small children, people that
24 cannot hike five-ten-twenty miles to get in where they want to
25 go, and I know you can get into Paradise and Bluebird on

1 shorter trips because our family has done it and we're not long,
2 extended hikers, our family, and I think we represent some
3 other part of the population out there that doesn't want to
4 hike overnight, that doesn't want to go in ten-twenty miles,
5 and I think the Forest Service proposal would allow us to
6 continue to do this. Possibly the wilderness proposal would
7 also, but I do believe the Forest Service's proposal is the
8 best all-around package.

9 Snowmobiles. I'm not a snowmobiler, but I would have
10 nothing against it and, I believe these people are taxpayers.
11 They have a right to go and enter these areas as much as the
12 backpacker, the overnight camper, so forth. I think the
13 wilderness description, as I understand, some wilderness
14 descriptions would limit certain improvements, such as keeping
15 the trails in shape, such things as additional signs.

16 Some people feel they want additional signs in the
17 area, trail markings, even the cabins that you spoke of, if
18 they go into disrepair, you could not come in and fix those
19 under certain wilderness proposals unless you did it by manual
20 labor, this type of thing. Bridges that are over some of the
21 trails could also not be fixed. There are severe limitations
22 depending on what you clarify as a wilderness-type area. I
23 believe the Forest Service proposal, the multi-use area, is
24 probably a better one for this area.

25 Somebody said they wanted to get away from man, away

1 from man's influence on society. Man is a part of the
2 environment. We are here whether we like it or not. We're not
3 severed from the environment. We're part of the wilderness
4 even if we go into it. We're part of it, and if several people
5 go in there, so be it. I think we can still control those
6 things and I think the Forest Service is making attempts to do
7 that.

8 I'm also a reader and an advocate of Aldo Leopold. In
9 fact, I belonged to an Aldo Leopold Conservation Club probably
10 twenty years ago, back in college, and I believe in many of his
11 tenets and what he said, but I also believe in these wilderness
12 areas you can go into this area on horseback. Some wilderness
13 area will not allow horseback. I'm not saying they would or
14 wouldn't, but as I understand, some areas don't allow horses to
15 go in, some do. He was also a hunter and there are many things
16 that -- Wilderness wouldn't stop hunting necessarily, but it
17 would stop hunting by people that are disabled, people that
18 would like to get closer to the area without having to hike in
19 a long ways, and some people say that's not the purist way of
20 doing it. Some of us aren't purists, but we still like the
21 outdoors. I have a great respect for the outdoors. And I have
22 seen many of the things the Forest Service has done around here
23 that I do like. Not necessarily in the Ten Lakes Area, but in
24 other areas. They've opened it up more to families and this
25 type of thing. Our population is going to grow older. We're

1 going to have more people that are not going to be able to hike
2 in and this type of thing and I think we should open it up to
3 that part of the population, too. They've been taxpayers; they
4 support it. That's not the only criteria, I realize. We have
5 to keep the land in as best condition and so forth as we can.

6 I don't have much more to add except that once, I
7 guess, once more I would summarize that I do support the
8 Kootenai National Forest proposed action and not any of the
9 wilderness proposals. Thank you.

10 HEARINGS OFFICER: Mike Free.

11 MR. FREE: My name is Mike Free. I live at 2196
12 Mission Trail, Kalispell, Montana. I support the Forest
13 Service's proposal to open up the Ten Lakes Area for more use,
14 to keep the roads up and keep it open to people that are not
15 hikers, people that won't pack in for -- that won't pack in
16 twenty-five miles. I know that we used the area quite a lot
17 during the summer and that if it was turned into a wilderness
18 area, that it would be -- A lot of people that do go in there
19 would be cut off from it. Even though they might like to hike,
20 they wouldn't necessarily want to hike that long road in to
21 Therriault Lakes or even if it was turned into a trail.

22 This last summer when we were up there, there were,
23 there was a couple staying from Illinois and they liked it a
24 lot. They said they thought the area was very beautiful and
25 they hiked up to a couple of the lakes, Bluebird Lake, which we

1 hike up to, and they said they liked it.

2 And another family which was staying at the Crystal
3 Lakes Resort, they said they drove in for just for a day and my
4 mom talked to them, but they said -- I guess that he said it
5 was pretty beautiful, and this would be cut off to a lot of
6 people, Montana's beauty, and I guess it would just be cut off
7 and a lot of people would not be able to see it and a lot of
8 people aren't the real long hikers. They're shorter and
9 Wolverine Lake is closer and so is Bluebird Lake and Paradise
10 Lake.

11 I guess, in conclusion, I am in support of to keep it
12 open and to keep it open for road access so that people can use
13 it, families can use it, people that don't want to hike in for
14 three days or maybe a week or so.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: This concludes the people I have
16 formally registered. Is there anyone else?

17 DALE BURK: My name has been on the list for at least
18 two or three weeks. I wrote a letter to the Kootenai Forest.

19 HEARINGS OFFICER: All right. Dale Burk.

20 MR. BURK: For the record, my name is Dale Burk. I
21 live at 295 Kootenai Creek Road, Stevensville, Montana. Mr.
22 Jakub, Larry, could I ask a couple of questions so I might --
23 Are the Kootenai Forest and the planning staff represented here
24 tonight? How are our comments going to be gotten to the people
25 who are going to make the decisions? Is there a hearing record

1 going to be made?

2 HEARINGS OFFICER: The hearing record is being taken,
3 as I indicated earlier, by the recorder and that record will be
4 available to the Kootenai National Forest to analyze.

5 MR. BURK: I apologize. I didn't hear that in your
6 remarks.

7 HEARINGS OFFICER: That's your reporter to your right.

8 MR. BURK: I knew she was recording. I guess the
9 question I had, are those recordings going to be deciphered and
10 given to the Kootenai Staff before or after the decision?

11 HEARINGS OFFICER: They are. That was part of my
12 opening remarks, if you would have been here.

13 MR. BURK: The reason I ask this question on the
14 roadless area, one process which included a very deliberative
15 argument over this area, the Two Chuck area and all of the
16 Eureka-Grave Creek planning unit, part of which were included
17 in a hearing which your predecessor, Bob Parker, chaired in
18 this room, and I recently asked for a copy of that, which was
19 recorded, because I felt that the information was significant
20 by its absence in this plan and there is no copy that I can get
21 my hands on of that, and I guess that's somewhat the fear. I
22 would like to be able to submit these comments later in writing
23 and I appreciated your allowing me to do that, but I guess I felt
24 on the basis of trying to follow through on that earlier hearing
25 process, a degree of impotence and frustration at the fact that

1 the countless degrees of both pro and con testimony no longer
2 exist, and it seems to me that's a foundation of information
3 that at least should be available in the library or Forest
4 Service research library or something, but it disappeared.

5 I want to state for the record, too, that as a boy
6 about the age of the young fellow who just testified here,
7 growing up in the environment of Trego, Montana, which is near
8 the mouth of Grave Creek, the tributary stream, I hiked into
9 the area involved before there was road there when it was a
10 twelve-mile hike just to get to Weasel Lake. I was in those
11 drainages long before they did the spruce bud worm preliminary
12 cuts and the subsequent four thousand massive acre cuts in the
13 Wigwam, so I've seen that environment over a period of the last
14 thirty to thirty-five years.

15 I find that if I pointed myself in the direction from
16 any road up there and hiked two miles, I would either be in the
17 Glacier Park or the Kootenai drainage. There's no place in
18 there that's twenty-five miles wide. It's fairly easy to hike.

19 I would like to submit a document which I will mail to
20 the Forest Service and point out that, in the terms of
21 availability in the forest of motorized travel in the Kootenai
22 National Forest, that this dot represents about how many lands
23 would be closed to recreation travel in the forest if you
24 created wilderness, and there is no other wilderness in the
25 upper Whitefish Range, so I feel that that value also was not

1 addressed. I could not find in the plan anywhere that dealt
2 with the fact that all but the rest of the Kootenai Forest,
3 with the exception of those areas that geographically limit
4 themselves to motorized use and the Cabinets that are open to
5 motor vehicle recreation. So, on the basis of clear logic it
6 seems to me that people that have to have this area for motor
7 recreation are simply without foundation.

8 I have one other question of the Forest Service -- I'm
9 trying to find my Ten Lakes thing. I want to ask a question.
10 I guess I'll have to ask it rhetorically unless someone from
11 the Kootenai can answer it for me. I've turned to the Ten
12 Lakes Montana Wilderness Study Act Area Report and Proposal. I
13 guess it would be Addendix V and V-2 which lists the
14 individuals who contributed to the preparation of this proposal.

15 I don't want to take up too much time. I've been
16 involved with the Ten Lakes and the Eureka-Grave Creeks
17 management process now as a conservation writer and a
18 person who is interested in that area for over twelve years,
19 so I took great personal interest in not only how this plan
20 was put together, but who was involved in it and as I go
21 down the list, which I can only assume was prepared to
22 convince the public of the degree of expertise of those
23 involved in it, I find any number of Master and Bachelor of
24 Science, and Bachelor of Arts, and Doctor of Philosophy, which
25 is for a hydrologist, and then the various staff officers. I

1 guess the question I have is that with all of these degrees, I
2 wonder who would be listed as the qualified thinker on the
3 forest because, frankly, I find more errors of logic and more
4 misrepresentations of basic data, basic information in this
5 report than you hear in most James Watt syllogisms and, frankly,
6 as a member of the public and a longtime critic and analyst of
7 forest planning, having been involved nationally in the
8 compilation of the entire hearing process of the Bitterroot
9 Forest controversy, the Congressional hearings on the Forest
10 Planning Act and the National Resource Planning Act, I frankly
11 am appalled at what I see as a lack of professionalism in the
12 mere presentation of information in this report, and I guess
13 that I feel on that that there's, in modern terminology in the
14 computer thinking there's a phrase called gigo, and it means
15 garbage in, garbage out, and I feel that's what we've got is
16 that we have a thoughtless, computerized, unfeeling,
17 insensitive recommendation that is without foundation on basic
18 professional evaluations of these resources.

19 I would like to go through some of the basic points
20 for the record. Unlike an earlier witness, I would like to
21 compliment the Forest Service for the inclusion of the
22 photographs in the report. I simply wish there had been more
23 of them because I share the view that they present only a
24 partial representation. I would like to have had a photograph
25 somewhere taken from ground level in the Wigwam Drainage that

1 would have indicated how many years it took for that large,
2 massive clearcut to simply begin regenerating itself and then I
3 would like to have another one presented that will show us how
4 many years into the hundreds of years it will take for us to
5 recapture a commercially viable forest in that area. I think
6 that would have really helped us in our understanding of what
7 it's going to mean if they are allowed to open up and do either
8 manipulative vegetative management for whatever purpose or
9 increased roading or increased logging, because I think
10 combined the effects hydrologically, the effects in point of
11 wildlife, the deleterious effects in terms of the quality of
12 recreation, whether it has to do with aesthetic recreation or
13 that of sport hunting, have just simply not been addressed.
14 I'll go through point by point so that there can be some sort
15 of direct relationships.

16 I guess I would have to go on record that, as a
17 minimum, I would support Alternative C, but I believe that
18 there are numerous areas, particularly the Eureka face, where
19 that designation should be taken lower down the mountain simply
20 because of the visual value of that.

21 Okay, I want to deal with the point of one of the
22 major errors of professionalism that I see which is on page 5
23 of the summary of the proposal. It uses terms like "net public
24 benefit" and "present net value" and then down below it says,
25 "The value of maintaining or enhancing the viable populations

1 of a threatened and endangered species such as the grizzly bear
2 is not included in the present net value." That in itself, by
3 itself, as far as I'm concerned, makes this analysis both
4 morally and legally irrelevant to a true determination of
5 what's there. That this has for years been recognized as one
6 of the significant portions of the grizzly habitat in the upper
7 Whitefish Range and for it to be assigned or for the Forest
8 Service to consider that it has no present value is mind
9 boggling at least.

10 Then it says on page 6 that the value of providing
11 visual quality protection in sensitive areas, such as the
12 western edge of the study area, is not included in the present
13 net value. How can you make an evaluation of the aesthetic
14 impact on that face which faces the community of Eureka and
15 that entire highway entrance area from Canada and for other
16 travelers who come to Kootenai, how can you make a
17 determination if that high value isn't given any value? It
18 seems to me just a simple, fundamental error is not simply in
19 logic, but in fact analysis. I have moved on down and my
20 response of that came in the various -- I think the confusion
21 that comes with the various groups of these acronyms like NPB,
22 or net public benefit, and PNV, present net value and I
23 wondered why there wasn't any future net value anywhere in the
24 report. It doesn't appear. Why not? I think if we want to
25 talk about and quote Aldo Leopold, I think that we should read

1 what he says and that is that our commitment automatically is
2 to future generations and not to ourselves. We should know
3 what those people's basic fundamentals are if we want to use
4 their theories. We should be using "BSS" and no "S" and that
5 last "S" is not the same kind of "S" included in the first.

6 Secondly, I came up with a formula. I would like to
7 have the formula used. It's called L-O-V equals L-O-C equals
8 C-L-P: Lack of vision equals lack of courage equals a chicken
9 liver proposal, and I feel that my acronyms have just about as
10 much value as theirs do in the relationship to what's in this
11 particular area.

12 We move over into the timber things, the analysis. It
13 proposes almost three times as much timbering that's going on
14 now. At least in terms of acreage involved, the roading in the
15 area would more than double. There's a point on this that says
16 the western half of the Study Area -- this is on page 8 --
17 dominates the eastern half of Tobacco Valley and is viewed from
18 the town of Eureka and travelers on Highway 93. That seems to
19 me that that would at that point have a present net value.
20 Under the Current Direction No Action and the Proposed Action,
21 this area would be managed for maintaining the visual quality,
22 which is fine, but if you will check, even on the photographs,
23 that there will be, and it's stated that there will be,
24 timbering both for salvage and other reasons up to that
25 boundary. I've long been a critic of what I call peekaboo

1 forestry. I don't believe that we should leave strips and that
2 sort of thing along highways. I believe that our forestry
3 should be based on sufficient environmental protective measures,
4 that we should be proud to let it hang out in the open. I feel
5 that feeling whether it's visually or otherwise. Why do we
6 want to leave the Eureka face as it is so that we can hide what
7 we do on the other side of the mountains from the bulk of the
8 traveling public and the people who live in Eureka? My guess
9 is that if the proposal had been to log on the face of Kasanka
10 Face and ridge, there would be an incredible outcry in Eureka.
11 See, that's why that statement is in here. If it's stated as a
12 value here, why isn't it included in the present net value?

13 Like a couple of the previous people who spoke, and I
14 assume spoke at other hearings, that the reviewers on page 9
15 conclude that the area rated high in naturalness and natural
16 integrity, but the opportunities for solitude were limited in
17 portions of the area because of existing roads and previous
18 logging activity adjacent to the Study Area. That in itself in
19 portions of the area is not sufficient reason to leave the area
20 unqualified as wilderness. That is a fundamental error of
21 thinking, let alone of logic and fairness to the process of
22 multiple use consideration, let alone a determination.

23 Down in item F it states that it is estimated that the
24 area supports between forty and sixty elk. Grizzly bear
25 sightings have been made in the area and virtually the entire

1 Study Area is delineated as essential habitat for grizzly bear
2 and the Northern Rocky Mountain wolves, and I add, and yet it
3 was not placed in the net -- with a net public benefit.

4 I would reiterate, then, in the statement made earlier
5 to the effect that the area would contribute to the Kootenai
6 Forest national goals for wilderness and it is not needed for
7 meeting its national goals in any other area. Basically, I
8 think that represents a direct statement to what has, for at
9 least twenty years, appeared to be an anti-wilderness bias on
10 the Kootenai Forest in terms of coming to these determinations
11 and I, for one, had hoped that in the Ten Lakes area where all
12 of the values of wilderness are so readily apparent that the
13 Forest Service would have, and its planners would have, been
14 able to grasp these and put them into practice, but, alas, I
15 was disappointed and I would ask and will ask if there isn't an
16 addressing of those in the revised plan that ultimately, those
17 people who see these things will simply then have to take its
18 place to Congress and I wish, for the record, to point out that
19 Congress, unlike some other things, isn't necessarily done on
20 an immediate basis. That those of us who are willing to work
21 through Congress are willing to work with geologic time.

22 On page 13 there's an analysis of the effect on local
23 economies and then, again, in the greater Ten Lakes Montana
24 Study Act Report and Proposal I was unable to find any
25 long-term analysis of the value of the Ten Lakes area just

1 simply as pure, raw wilderness and all of the naturalness that
2 it represents, not only to wildlife, but to water, to scenic
3 values, to human use. I don't find many things in that report
4 that dealt with the area as wilderness. Everything seems to be
5 based totally on a totalitarian notion that unless man somehow
6 touches it and changes it, it has no value.

7 As a hunter, I wish to take great exception to the
8 analysis of the Forest Service as stated on page 15 and item 4,
9 the "Effect on Recreation", that the timber management and
10 associated road construction change roadless recreation
11 opportunities to motorized recreation opportunities. Timber
12 management and road construction can have the most significant
13 effect on visual quality and I found no real analysis in this
14 report based on the studies done in the Bitterroot, based on
15 the studies done in Chamberlain, based on the study done in the
16 Beaverhead National Forest, to the effect that roading in areas
17 had very deleterious effects on elk populations and ultimately,
18 unless there are very stringent controls of these roads if they
19 are put in, that there is a significant deterioration of
20 hunting as a recreational activity. I frankly don't buy the
21 Forest Service analysis as stated in this particular district.

22 And then on page 16, a real strange misstatement of
23 logic that I believe needs challenging has to do with the
24 effect on wilderness under "Recreation Management", item 1. It
25 says that motorized recreation is not compatible with

1 wilderness. Okay, so far as we go. "Ten Lakes has had a
2 history of snowmobile use which would be perpetuated in the
3 Proposed Action. Snowmobile use would be prohibited in the
4 wilderness proposals Alternatives A, B, C and D and this could
5 result in law enforcement problems from motorized violations of
6 the wilderness boundary." Do we assume from that, then, that
7 the Forest Service is telling us that if it may cause a problem,
8 they would rather let the snowmobilers dictate the policy by
9 the fact that they've been violating the law by going into this
10 area? At what point do the law breakers determine what policy
11 should be simply because we don't want to have the problem of
12 enforcing the law? I just can't find that. That's the same
13 thing as saying we might as well let people, as they want, use
14 LSD because they've been using it and, if they keep on using
15 it, we're going to have trouble enforcing the law. It's
16 unbelievable that people would think that way in coming to a
17 determination of public lands where multiple-use values and
18 long-term values are supposed to weigh, rather than a simple
19 convenience of a district ranger or his assistant on the
20 Fortine District or Eureka District of the Kootenai.

21 And now I would like to deal with an area of logic
22 and the basic tenet of the United States Forest Service as the
23 introduction to its law and the utilitarian theme coming out of
24 philosopher John Locke and others, that they got the greatest
25 good for the greatest number in the long run. I'm quoting on

1 page 17 titled, "Effects on Recreation", item No. 4. It
2 states: "Alternative D and the Proposed Action would provide
3 the most opportunities and favorable setting for motorized
4 dispersed recreation. Alternatives B and C and the current
5 direction would provide the most opportunities and favorable
6 settings for nonmotorized dispersed recreation." I fail to see
7 how that has any direct relationship to the most good for the
8 most people in the long run. What you get is that we're
9 dealing with a national forest and not these few people in that
10 whole area who use that for their snowmobiles and who, as I
11 pointed out earlier, have pointless, countless acres of vast,
12 heavy-snowed and open areas for using snowmobiles.

13 In the past, there have been a considerable number of
14 violations in the area with people in there with motor vehicles
15 and, as I recall, one district ranger on the Fortine District
16 named Dean Weiden (phon.) who, when he was there, went to great
17 efforts to try and enforce that, and I just don't seem to see
18 that same sort of dedication with the present people or the
19 people who wrote this plan. I looked for Dean Weiden's name in
20 vain on the list of people who had participated in this and his
21 name wasn't on the list, even though he is a former ranger in
22 that district, but he was sensitive to those kinds of values
23 and maybe that's why he is no longer on that district or the
24 Kootenai Forest, for that matter. That's a rhetorical
25 statement of my own asking for, perhaps, not a direct comment

1 on the plan.

2 And then I wanted to ask a question again of my
3 concern over the fundamental logic the Forest Service used in
4 assessing these things on page 18. It's category 3, "Effects
5 on Protection." Road construction and access increase the
6 potential for man-caused fires. However, roads increase
7 initial attack capabilities and provide fuelbreaks. The
8 existence of roads greatly facilitates salvage of
9 insect-infested timber which can deteriorate rapidly."

10 I guess I came so far and I've been thinking about
11 this for so long and I've got so much I want to say on this
12 that I'm trying to get it all in. And I'm used to testifying
13 in a senate hearing where the Senator is saying, "You've got
14 five minutes," so that's a different thing. I apologize to you
15 for my causing you problems.

16 HEARINGS OFFICER: Like I indicated earlier, I wasn't
17 going to set a time limit, so I'm not going to worry about it.

18 MR. BURK: I'm almost to the end of it here, believe
19 it or not. I could find a lot more errors per page if you
20 would like me to. I'm hitting the highlights. I want to speak
21 to the question in analysis on page 18, paragraph 3, "Effects
22 on Protection" that ultimately is not protection of the natural
23 environment and all the processes that have worked together
24 over the centuries to create this particular, unique
25 environment, to leave it natural and to leave these. if you

1 will, I'll use the Forest Service term or the timber industry
2 term "bug-killed trees" to deteriorate and feed the insects and
3 ultimately return to the soil or regenerate that area's ability
4 to provide the very environment we now look upon as good and
5 favorable. I feel that value was not given to naturalness to a
6 process that has proven that it works.

7 Then it says really kind of an interesting thing on
8 page 18 that we have one of those strange little quirks of
9 logic where, in making a statement that is pro-development, the
10 reverse is true if you look carefully at the statement. It
11 says, this is in paragraph 4, "For example, as access impacts
12 wildlife habitat, the quality of the hunting recreational
13 experience may decrease, but the maintenance of nonmotorized
14 semi-primitive recreation setting can reduce this effect." My
15 goodness, can you see that those little pockets of wildland
16 help hunting? What will bigger pockets of wildland do? I
17 would like that question answered by the Forest Service.

18 I would even like them to answer the question what you
19 would have if the entire area was left as the elk sanctuary
20 area as it is now. Would we not be able to maintain the high
21 quality of elk hunting in that area? I believe this statement
22 is, in reality, an admission that the more wilderness, the
23 better the sanctuary habitat for elk and the better quality of
24 hunting, both in terms of numbers and quality.

25 I will submit a written statement, but I would somehow

1 or another also like somewhere for the Forest Service to
2 publish in print in the newspapers, or whatever, a list of
3 who's responsible for this type of thing. Let us know which
4 one of our public servants have done this great job of logic.

5 Thank you.

6 HEARINGS OFFICER: Wayne Herman.

7 MR. HERMAN: My name is Wayne Herman. I live at 573
8 Second Avenue West North, here in Kalispell. My comments will
9 be short and nontechnical, but I would like to put down my
10 thoughts for the record. And for the record, I would like to
11 go on and state that Alternative C is what I think should be
12 the future of that area.

13 I've been involved with the Wildlife Club here locally
14 and for several years. I am familiar with the area, though I
15 haven't been through it extensively, and I know my family has
16 been in there on numerous occasions and it is a beautiful area.
17 We've went into the Rainbow Lake, Wolverine Lakes and I haven't
18 seen grizzlies in the area, but I do remember on one occasion
19 at the Wolverine Trail where you go into the lake there, there
20 was a sign on there that says, "There's a grizzly and cubs in
21 the area," so that you would be aware of it, and I think this
22 type of an area, it's great that we have it.

23 As far as the Forest Service, the way it's managed now
24 and possibly their recommendation, I could almost go along with
25 it to a point if they thought that they could keep it managed

1 that way forever, but I'm a sceptic. I've seen what has
2 happened in other areas and we have our -- Locally we have an
3 area, Jewel Basin. That's a beautiful area and it's managed
4 good, fairly good I think, but then with the oil and gas leases
5 coming up, they've leased that and it makes you wonder what
6 would happen in the Ten Lakes Basin. I hate to see that area
7 open to political whims. It wouldn't take much from our James
8 Watt, or whoever it is in the future could be just that caliber,
9 wouldn't take much more than a stroke of a pen to wipe that out
10 and it might be for a temporary benefit in an area that needs
11 timber; that is, a given point, but I really think that in the
12 long range and in the future, I know people don't realize
13 farther down the line what that area will be like.

14 We have a lot of areas comparable to that right now,
15 but as time goes by I think it's going to become more and more
16 apparent for the value of that area for the tourist industry
17 and for several other reasons. And there are an awful lot of
18 pressures for development in that entire area from all kinds of
19 different aspects and I really believe that for the protection
20 for future generations and also due to the fact of the lack of
21 wilderness on the Kootenai Forest, I truly believe that the
22 best way to go on this is Alternative C and I would like to
23 reemphasize that as my feelings. Thank you.

24 HEARINGS OFFICER: James Conner.

25 MR. CONNER: My name is James R. Conner, C-O-N-N-E-R.

1 I live at 78 Konley, K-O-N-L-E-Y, Drive and that's in Kalispell.
2 I will submit detailed page-specific testimony in writing
3 before the deadline. Tonight I would like to approach this
4 from, from a slightly different perspective. Indeed, I would
5 like to put this into my perspective because it's obvious that
6 the Forest Service, for its efforts, has been unable to do so.

7 As I was driving down tonight, it struck me that Lewis
8 and Clark and Thomas Jefferson were where this all began and we
9 can come back to that in the present. Jefferson, as you recall,
10 sent Lewis and Clark to explore the Louisiana Purchase. This
11 territory, fewer than two hundred years ago, was a virgin land.
12 Jefferson, the man who sent them out, said, and many people
13 have quoted him, "Equal rights to all, special privileges to
14 none."

15 Jefferson perhaps could not have anticipated that a
16 special privilege would accrue to those of us in the West
17 because of geography, and that special privilege that we are
18 able to enjoy is our magnificent western country, our lakes and
19 streams, and mountains and meadows, but with that special
20 privilege though, goes special responsibility. By dint of
21 being here, we are the stewards of this land. Future
22 generations have entrusted us with the responsibility of
23 determining that these lands are used for the greatest benefit
24 of present generations and the future generations, something
25 that Congress recognized in 1964 when, after a great many years

1 of debate, it passed the Wilderness Act of 1964.

2 Today, less than two centuries after Lewis and Clark
3 went through an uninhabited land, we are to the point where
4 we're making allocation decisions affecting perhaps one or two
5 percent of the remaining land. As a historian, I find the pace
6 at which we've allocated land to be astonishing, zipping past
7 our eyes with the speed of light.

8 Now, we come to the Ten Lakes Region, one of just a
9 handful of regions on the Kootenai National Forest where man
10 has not somehow intruded permanently.

11 For the record, I support Alternative C. And while I
12 have some reservations and criticisms of the document prepared
13 by the Forest Service, let me first tell you why it does
14 support my recommendation. Reading through it I discovered
15 that wilderness would provide the highest elk population for
16 the area. The best security for the elk, the best security for
17 the grizzly bear, it would provide the highest visual quality,
18 it would provide the greatest number of recreation visitor days
19 for nonmotorized recreation, primitive recreation, that the
20 Forest Service Plan D acknowledges is going to be in short
21 supply in the year 2000. The goals will not be met unless more
22 wilderness is added to meet those demands. What may be amazing
23 to a great number of people is that wilderness will provide the
24 most animal units a month for grazing.

25 But then there are a number of reasons why wilderness

1 should be considered for this area that did not appear in this
2 document. As many of you know, in the past few weeks the woodland
3 caribou has been added to the endangered list, and Jasper
4 Carleton's work suggests that woodland caribou may well use
5 this region. It seems to me to be foolishness to sacrifice
6 such a small area with such high quality, to sacrifice habitat
7 for rare and beautiful species on the altar of timber
8 managements. And Ten Lakes is not a prime-producing area for
9 timber. The land proposed for commercial forest by the
10 Kootenai National Forest Staff in this region is thirty percent
11 less productive than the average for the forest itself. By my
12 calculations over the fifty-year-time horizon of the forest
13 plan this would produce point seven percent of the actual board
14 feet. The actual economic value of that would probably be less
15 because you would be getting small trees and bug-kill trees.
16 This is insignificant in terms of the marking that the forest
17 plan provides.

18 So if it's not a prime timber-producing area, what is
19 it? If it meets the tests of the Wilderness Act, and there is
20 no doubt that it meets both the letter and the spirit of the
21 Wilderness Act, very high quality area, then why is this being
22 proposed for nonwilderness? And the answer may be found in the
23 roar of the snowmobile engine.

24 We have been led to believe that this is a prime area
25 for snowmobiles, yet poring through the documents I've found no

1 cite specific data to support that claim. The numbers, such as
2 they are on snowmobiles, appear to be derived from a Graves
3 Creek Unit Plan prepared in 1974 that dealt with an area far
4 larger than the Study Area and there was no intent to
5 disaggregate this information. We'll be hearing more about
6 this in the future.

7 Finally, as Mr. Burk pointed out, the reviewing
8 officials have a strange and inaccurate understanding of what
9 wilderness is and what wilderness is not because they have
10 applied in 1978, five years after Congress passed the
11 endangered Wilderness Act, they have applied, once again, the
12 sights and sounds and smells criterion that is used to
13 disqualify wilderness from wilderness consideration.

14 I think that's an important point because on the 9th
15 of February, 1978, Morris Udall, who was in Congress at the
16 time the original Wilderness Act was passed, stood on the floor
17 of Congress and explained why that criterion was invalid. And
18 I would have thought that within fifty years the message would
19 have trickled down into the Kootenai Forest. I brought with me
20 part of that speech. I enter it into the record now. But I
21 will state for the record now that I can give you a practical
22 example of why we should not be worried about clearcuts on the
23 boundaries of Ten Lakes.

24 This summer, along with another man in this room, I
25 stood on a high peak in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. As I

1 looked east, I saw range after range receding into the mist.
2 As I looked west, I could see clearcuts, and as I stood there
3 in the still, morning air, I could hear a chain saw in the way.
4 Does that disqualify the section of Bob Marshall Wilderness
5 from being wilderness? Are we to delete it from the wilderness
6 so that the chain saws and the bulldozer can move eastward
7 another ten miles and then in ten years or twenty years stand
8 on another peak, repeat the experience, and then delete another
9 ten miles of the Bob Marshall and repeat the cycle time and
10 again until the Bob Marshall disappears completely? I think
11 the answer is obvious.

12 I could go on, but I prefer to put the rest of my
13 comments in writing. I will submit them in due course. Thank
14 you very much.

15 HEARINGS OFFICER: Is there anyone else here who would
16 care to make a statement this evening? That concludes the
17 persons that I have listed that are formally registered to talk.
18 All right, if no one does, what I'm going to do is just recess
19 until 8:30 to see if anybody might change their mind or if
20 anyone in addition to the people here might turn up and if not,
21 we'll adjourn the hearing. We'll be in recess until 8:30.

22 (Whereupon, the hearing was in recess at 8:08 p.m. and
23 subsequently reconvened at 8:30 p.m., and the following
24 proceedings were had and entered of record:)

25 HEARINGS OFFICER: I think we'll get back on the

1 record here. I recessed the hearing at 8:08 with the idea we
2 would reconvene at 8:30 to see if anyone else would want to
3 make a statement or anyone else would come. At this time, is
4 there anyone in attendance that would like to make an oral
5 statement that hasn't already? All right. The time being 8:32,
6 with no other persons caring to make a statement and there
7 being no indications of anyone else that plans to attend this
8 evening, I hereby adjourn the hearings relative to the Ten
9 Lakes Wilderness Study Act Area. Thank you for your attendance.

10 (Hearing concluded at 8:33 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF MONTANA)
 : ss.
County of Missoula)

I, Melody Jeffries, RPR, Official-Freelance Court
Reporter for the State of Montana, residing in Missoula,
Montana, do hereby certify:

That I was duly authorized to and did report the
testimony and evidence in the above-entitled cause;

I further certify that the foregoing pages of this
transcript represent a true and accurate transcription of my
stenotype notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on
this the 4th day of February, 1983.

Melody Jeffries
Melody Jeffries, RPR
Official-Freelance Court Reporter
State of Montana, Residing in
Missoula, Montana.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 4th day of
February, 1983.

Mary W. Huns
NOTARY PUBLIC FOR THE STATE OF MONTANA
Residing in Missoula, Montana.
My Commission expires 04/07/85

Morris K. Udall

Extending the Wilderness System

Opponents of wilderness preservation often fall back on two dubious arguments in attempting to block legislation extending the National Wilderness Preservation System. These are that an area does not meet certain arbitrary standards of wilderness "purity" and that one should not be designated unless it has been through a formal administrative study process.

Representative Morris K. Udall (D-Ariz.), chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and primary sponsor of the Endangered American Wilderness Act of 1978, effectively demolished both these anti-wilderness arguments in a February 9 speech which preceded House approval of this important legislation. His clarification of these issues has special significance as Congress considers the pending legislation to add many millions of acres of Alaskan wilderness to the national system, as the Forest Service completes its current Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II), and as the Bureau of Land Management proceeds with similar study of the nation's vast public domain lands.

Some members of Congress are seeking to postpone Wilderness System protection for many of Alaska's wildland areas which have not been through a formal wilderness study process. Yet, as Representative Udall emphasizes, such a process is not universally mandated by the 1964 Wilderness Act. More than half the areas and almost three fourths of the acreage in the Wilderness System have not gone through formal study. Neither have the 17 areas newly designated under the Endangered American Wilderness Act.

The following is an abridged text of Mr. Udall's February 9 speech in support of the Endangered Act, which passed by an impressive 333 to 44 vote in the House and 84 to 5 in the Senate and was signed into law by President Carter on February 24.—Ed.

MR. SPEAKER, I rise in support of the conference report on the Endangered American Wilderness Act. This legislation, which I was proud to sponsor in the House last year, is in fulfillment of the precepts of the original Wilderness Act of 1964. In that act, it was declared to be a policy of Congress "to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness."

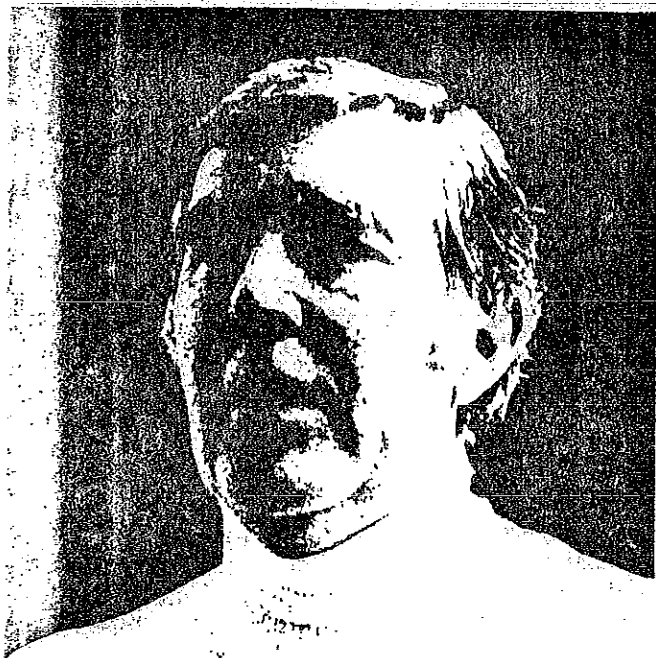
Here in this legislation, the Congress has recognized this responsibility, and has proposed that 17 carefully

selected roadless areas in the western national forests be designated as wilderness. In the process of identifying and refining these areas, we have sought to put a spotlight on the whole question of *de facto* wilderness on our national forests. Basically, this *de facto* wilderness is the still unroaded and undeveloped land—land which could be preserved or developed, but for which no final decision has yet been reached. In recent years, a number of problems have plagued the effort to resolve the future of these lands. Clearing up some of those problems is a key step both in expediting decisions on additional wilderness areas and in proceeding with the overall job of sound multiple-use management of our national forests generally. As we have worked out this bill, we have also made significant progress in settling a number of key policy issues, and I want briefly to summarize that progress for purposes of a clear legislative record.

A long and distracting debate over issues of basic definition has kept us from getting down to the real issues of substance. That controversy over criteria and definition has complicated an already too complex study, review and decision-making process, which has simply become bogged down. Finally, a lack of quality control within the study, review and decision-making process in the Executive Branch has culminated in a widespread lack of public trust in the decisions being made, and so challenges and further controversy have ensued.

The first of these problems plaguing wilderness decisions has become widely known as the "purity" debate. Since passage of the parent Wilderness Act in 1964, some agency interpretations have distorted the criteria of wilderness suitability into an excessively "pure" and narrow set of standards. Those standards have become far narrower in important details than the criteria Congress set down in the original law. As a result, decisions made by the agency have not been acceptable, have aroused additional controversy and required challenges and requests for Congress to intervene, case by case, to correct agency errors.

For example, contained in the bill are areas in close proximity to major metropolitan regions. One, Pusch Ridge, is the scenic backdrop of my hometown, Tucson. In years past, many beautiful areas such as this, easily accessible to thousands of people, young and old, have not been considered for wilderness just because they



Congressman Udall addressing conservationists.

were close to people. Another is the Lone Peak Wilderness, a grandly spectacular mountain complex immediately contiguous to Salt Lake City and Provo, Utah. The great scenic values of these areas are readily enjoyed by thousands who view them from the nearby cities and highways. Naturally, if such a wilderness can be seen and enjoyed from afar, it follows that from the heights of the mountain, the cities and highways below are readily apparent to an observer hiking in the wilderness. Now, the misguided interpretation which confused this issue was the idea that an area can not be designated formally as wilderness if it is "degraded" by the sights and sounds of non-wilderness activities outside, beyond its boundaries.

That idea simply does not conform to the definition set out by Congress in the original Wilderness Act, yet it grew up into a kind of article of faith among some agency personnel, and any land subject to such outside "sights and sounds"—and even smells—was rejected out of hand.

This interpretation was simply wrong. In our decision to designate the Pusch Ridge, Sandia and Lone Peak Wilderness areas, the Congress is clearly rejecting that erroneous criterion, as we have made quite clear in the committee reports. We have rejected the whole "sights and sounds and smells" criterion simply because the only relevant question to be addressed in determining wilderness suitability is whether the area of land itself is of wilderness character, as an entity.

Also included in this legislation are areas that do have some previously existing non-conforming structures. While I agree with the concept that wilderness areas ought to be as pristine and unmarred by man's activities as possible, I also feel very strongly that the overly stringent concept of wilderness should not be

used to preclude the reality of wilderness. With the exception of Alaska, there are probably no areas left in the United States completely free of signs of man's activity. If we followed the strict concept of wilderness "purity," then very few, if any, areas in the lower 48 would ever be included in the system.

In adopting a new policy guiding these questions of wilderness criteria, the Department of Agriculture has moved back to the intent and spirit of the Wilderness Act. The result, as we have seen as we reviewed each of the areas in this bill with the department and Forest Service witnesses, is a significant reduction in the amount of debate over criteria, and a better focus on the substantive questions. I want particularly to commend the Carter administration and Secretary Bob Bergland and Assistant Secretary M. Rupert Cutler for the policy reforms which have realigned agency direction with the intent of Congress to a substantial degree. The result of clearing up these long-debated issues is that the whole process of resolving important *de facto* wilderness questions can be greatly expedited. I certainly hope that other agencies involved in the wilderness study process will not repeat the kind of misinterpretations we have now largely settled with the Forest Service. The Bureau of Land Management, in particular, should profit by this legislative record in order to avoid the same unnecessary controversy and delays which the "purity" debate brought to the national forest wilderness review process.

When we passed the Wilderness Act of 1964, we identified a "wilderness study process" for certain categories of lands. Certain procedures were laid out, including analysis of the area by the managing agency, public hearings and the final Executive Branch reviews, leading to a Presidential recommendation.

Some have thought that the same exact process was required for each additional area that might be considered for wilderness designation. Indeed, some have even suggested that no area may be proposed by the administration or considered by Congress unless and until that exact process has been completed. That is simply not the case. No such blanket study process was required or contemplated by the Wilderness Act. Congress has specifically mandated that the same process be used for some individual areas, and for those that process should of course be followed. But other procedures may properly be used in reaching such decisions for other lands, where a specific congressional mandate, in a statute or in direction from the Senate or House committee, has not been set.

What is necessary is that these decisions be made on the basis of good and adequate information, with ample opportunity for broad public comment and participation. There is no set, preordained, standardized wilderness study process, nor was any such ritualistic, inflexible procedure intended by the Wilderness Act—as I can say from my perspective as the floor manager for that bill 15 years ago.

In considering these wilderness decisions, we have insisted that the standards Congress set in the statute

be adhered to, and we have insisted that the information Congress needs to make a sound decision be available. The way that information is gathered, organized or published is not the important point. A variety of processes have been used, and a number of the wilderness areas we have designated over the years have resulted from congressional investigations and analysis, even in the absence of any formal wilderness study by any agency. I make this point with some emphasis, for I think it is wrong to suggest that a rigid formula for wilderness study is required, except where Congress has specifically applied the process outlined in the Wilderness Act to individual areas. In other cases, we can review the information presently available, and develop additional information through our own congressional hearing procedures, and we can thus satisfy ourselves that we already know enough to make sound decisions. In such cases, to insist upon further study would simply be to waste the taxpayers' money, the time of the agencies and the time of the Congress. And to force every potential wilderness area through that whole long and drawn-out process before we can decide whether or not all or part of it will be preserved would totally undermine our goal of expediting decision-making.

Needless opposition to wilderness has often been generated by widespread misinformation about what activities are and are not permissible within wilderness areas. Much of this has been the result of excessively rigid wilderness management policies of the Forest Service itself. For example, often the Forest Service mistakenly called for immediate removal of non-conforming structures the moment that an area was designated as wilderness.

One of the direct and beneficial results of the consideration of this legislation has been a review by the Forest Service of its wilderness management policies to bring them more in line with congressional intent. Assistant Secretary Cutler testified that they would be "more innovative in managing around objectionable features to minimize their impacts." This more flexible approach is welcome and long overdue.

As a result of legislation passed by the last Congress, the Forest Service is working on substantial improvements to its land-use planning process. Although it got off to a bad start, the RARE II process offers the promise of a more balanced and nationally consistent review of the remaining roadless and undeveloped areas on our national forest lands. It is our hope that the Forest Service will not make premature decisions about the future of these lands through the existing and often flawed land-use planning process. In a number of cases involving areas in this bill, earlier Forest Service plans were fundamentally deficient in ways that nearly guaranteed prolonged controversy, appeals and lawsuits.

We have always sought balance in our wilderness designations—to say, in effect, that yes we can have the best of both worlds. We can set aside the prime areas of wilderness to meet our obligation to the millions of yet unborn Americans and at the same time

insure that there are enough multiple-use lands remaining to meet this nation's needs for minerals, timber and livestock.

This bill is significant for the outstanding areas it adds to our treasury of protected wilderness areas. It is significant, too, as the vehicle for demonstrating some real progress with the problems I have discussed here. We have found it possible to reach decisions which enjoy a broad consensus, and we have thus narrowed the range of controversy. The Executive Branch leadership has put new policies into effect that promise further improvements, in criteria and in procedures. Just as I was pleased to have a role in securing the Wilderness Act in 1964 and the Eastern Wilderness Areas Act of 1974, so I am pleased with the real progress and the real balance represented by this landmark conservation measure, the Endangered American Wilderness Act of 1978.

So we stand here today with a good bill, a bill of which we can all be proud. In this legislation we are proposing that 1.3 million acres of our great national forests will be preserved forever in their natural state. To some in the resource extraction industries, this is an unnecessary lockup; to millions of other Americans it is an opportunity, an increasingly rare opportunity, to behold the wonders of nature basically unaffected by man's often destructive activities. One only has to go to Yellowstone, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area or any of our other great conservation areas to see the real need and interest of the American public in preserving what little we as a nation have left in a natural state.

Newest Wilderness Areas

The Endangered American Wilderness Act of 1978 adds 1,303,407 acres to the National Wilderness Preservation System, protecting the following 17 national forest roadless areas in 10 Western states: *Pusch Ridge*, Arizona, 56,430 acres; *Golden Trout*, California, 306,000 acres; *Santa Lucia*, California, 21,250 acres; *Ventana additions*, California, 61,000 acres; *Hunter-Fryingpan*, Colorado, 74,450 acres; *Gospel Hump*, Idaho, 206,000 acres; *Welcome Creek*, Montana, 28,440 acres; *Chama River Canyon*, New Mexico, 50,300 acres; *Manzano Mountain*, New Mexico, 37,000 acres; *Sandia Mountain*, New Mexico, 30,930 acres; *Three Sisters additions*, Oregon, 45,400 acres; *Kalmiopsis additions*, Oregon, 92,000 acres; *Mt. Hood additions*, Oregon, 33,000 acres; *Wild Rogue*, Oregon, 36,700 acres; *Lone Peak*, Utah, 29,567 acres; *Wenaha-Tucannon*, Washington and Oregon, 180,000 acres; and *Savage Run*, Wyoming, 14,940 acres. With the newly added *Ab-saroka-Beartooth*, Montana, 904,500 acres, national forest wilderness now totals 14,813,312 acres in 106 areas. The overall Wilderness System now totals 16,651,612 acres in 175 areas.